WEDNESDAY
September 25, 2024

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
20 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 55 • No. 230

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

Sri. Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka

Telugu and Maharashtra States' Leading Hospital Chain is now in Namma Bengaluru

MEDICOVER
HOSPITALS
WHITEFIELDS

Inauguration by
The Honorable
Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka,
Sri. D.K. Shivakumar

Date: 25th September 2024
Time: 11:30am

SPECIAL GUESTS

Sri. Satish Jarkiholi
Hon'ble PWD Minister

Sri. Dinesh Gundu Rao
Hon'ble Health &
Family Welfare Minister

GUEST OF HONOUR

Sri. Basavaraj Bommai
MP - Haveri, Former Chief Minister of Karnataka

Smt. Manjula Aravind Limbavali
MLA - Mahadevapura

Sri. N. A. Haris
MLA - Shanti Nagar

INVITED BY

Dr. G. Anil Krishna
Chairman & Managing Director
Medicover Hospitals

Dr. Rakshit Palalochana
BE (Mechanical), PGDMS,
PHD - Immunology & Genetics (Oncology)

Dr. A. Sharath Reddy
Executive Director
Medicover Hospitals

Mr. P. Hari Krishna
Executive Director
Medicover Hospitals

Dr. A. R. Krishna Prasad
Director
Medicover Hospitals

MEDICOVER BENGALURU HIGHLIGHTS

- 100+ Expert Doctors
- World Class Cathlab, Robotics, MRI, CT & Operation Theatres etc.,
- 30+ Specialities
- ★★★★★ Hospital, Personalised Care
- Cashless Admission with Insurances & TPA's
- 200 Car Parking Facility

MEDICOVER HIGHLIGHTS

13 Countries | 40+ Hospitals | 7000+ Beds | 3000+ ICU Beds | 200+ Operation Theatres | 2 Crore + Patients Treated | 1700+ Doctors | 45000+ Employees

MEDICOVER HOSPITALS NETWORK - INDIA: KARNATAKA | TELANGANA | ANDHRA PRADESH | MAHARASHTRA | PROVIDING HEALTHCARE SERVICES IN 12 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

WEDNESDAY
September 25, 2024

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
20 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 55 • No. 230

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

UNSC REFORM DOCUMENT

Good beginning, says India

NEWS » PAGE 14

J&K POLLS

Many top leaders to face the test today

NEWS » PAGE 15

DISSANAYAKE'S PICK

Harini Amarasuriya is Sri Lanka's new PM

WORLD » PAGE 18

DATA POINT

Gukesh and Arjun reach great heights

Performances match that of all-time greats

OPINION » PAGE 13

T20 WORLD CUP

Harmanpreet hopeful of a good show in UAE

SPORT » PAGE 19

Karnataka HC upholds nod for probe against CM

Judge dismisses Siddaramaiah's petition challenging the legality of Governor's order granting approval for investigation into alleged illegalities in allotment of 14 sites to his wife by MUDA

Krishnaprasad
BENGALURU

In a major setback to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, the Karnataka High Court on Tuesday upheld the permission granted by the Governor to conduct an investigation against him on the allegation of illegalities in the allotment of 14 sites worth ₹56 crore to his wife, Parvathi, by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA).

Also, the court gave the green signal for ordering a probe by vacating its interim order granted on August 19 directing a special court in Bengaluru to defer the decision on the complaints against Mr. Siddaramaiah.

Siddaramaiah, along with D.K. Shivakumar, addresses a press conference in Bengaluru on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

It also rejected a plea to stay Tuesday's verdict to enable Mr. Siddaramaiah to appeal against it.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna delivered the verdict while dismissing Mr. Siddaramaiah's petition challenging the legality of the Governor's August 16 order granting approval for investigation under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption (PC) Act, 1988.

Referring to the allegations, the High Court said that it "undoubtedly requires an investigation into the teeth of the fact that the beneficiary of all these acts is not anybody outside, but the wife of Mr. Siddaramaiah."

On Governor's power

On the Governor's power, the court said the Governor, in normal circumstances, had to act on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers as per Article 163 of the Constitution, "but can take independent decision in exceptional circumstances, and the present case is one such exception..."

"No fault can be found in the action of the Governor exercising independent discretion," the court said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14
RELATED REPORTS ON
» PAGE 8

Ready for probe, but won't quit: CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Even as the Opposition stepped up its demand for his resignation following the High Court of Karnataka's verdict in the MUDA case, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah ruled out the possibility of quitting, reiterating that he had done no wrong and was ready to face an investigation.

"Our legal battle against the vindictive politics of the BJP and the JD(S) will continue. They have resorted to revenge politics because I stand for the poor and fight for social justice," he said, adding that it is yet another instance of the BJP using the Raj Bhavan to destabilise a government.

The BJP, meanwhile, will hold black flag demonstrations on Wednesday demanding the Chief Minister's resignation.

DETAILS ON
» PAGE 8

Zelenskyy meets Modi in U.S., expresses gratitude for efforts towards peace

Sriram Lakshman
NEW YORK

Prime Minister Narendra Modi met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Monday, in the afternoon, before departing New York for New Delhi. Mr. Zelenksyy's team had requested the meeting, according to Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri.

There was no discussion on India's purchase of Russian oil, Mr. Misri said as he briefed journalists on Monday. Referring to India's purchase of oil, Mr. Zelenksyy had told Indian journalists in Kyiv last month, that if Indians "change their attitude" towards Russia, the war would end.

The two leaders last met in Kyiv on August 23 when Mr. Modi made a short visit to Ukraine. During Monday's interaction – their third in three months– they discussed the Russia-Ukraine war and the Ukraine-India bilateral relationship. Government officials were circumspect on Mr. Modi's afternoon schedule following his address at the UN's Summit of the Future, prior to the announcement that the meeting had taken place.

Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Narendra Modi during their meeting in New York, on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. AFP

Mr. Zelenskyy "thanked the Prime Minister for the efforts that he was making for peace and a pathway to finding a way out of this conflict", Mr. Misri said.

"The President thanked India for supporting Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity," the Ukrainian readout of the meeting said.

The Foreign Secretary confirmed that there was a discussion on the specifics of resolving the conflict.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

NEARBY

Six-eggs-a-week scheme of govt. starts today

BENGALURU
The State government will begin distributing eggs for six days a week to school children on Wednesday, amidst concerns by teachers who say that procurement prices do not match the prevailing rates in the market. » Page 7

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 5

Lebanon under fire

Toll climbs: Rescuers inspect the debris at the site of an overnight Israeli strike on a pharmacy in the southern Lebanese village of Akbiyeh, on Tuesday. Over 500 people have been killed in the massive Israeli bombardment since Monday, the deadliest attack since 2006. AFP (REPORT ON PAGE 18)

Actor-MLA Mukesh arrested in rape case

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The Special Investigation Team (SIT), probing the complaints against Malayalam film industry personalities in the wake of the Hema Committee report on Tuesday, recorded the arrest of actor-legislator M. Mukesh in a rape case registered against him.

He was interrogated for three hours and released on [anticipatory] bail.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 11

Ganja, liquor seized in Lokayukta raids on Excise Department offices

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Lokayukta teams conducted raids on 62 offices of the Excise Department and seized around 450 grams of ganja, several bottles of liquor, and ₹2 lakh that was unaccounted for.

Several files were also confiscated for verification.

The search was launched after warrants were issued by Lokayukta B.S. Patil, who himself inspected the excise office at Byatarayanapura. Upalokayukta B. Veerappa inspected the office at Yeshwantpur. "Around 250 g of ganja was found in the Byatarayanapura office and around 200 g in the Yeshwantpur office. Notices have been issued to the officials concerned seeking an explanation," said Mr. Patil said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 6

Bangladesh returns BSF jawan after talks

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The constable had inadvertently crossed over to Bangladesh while he was patrolling the area

A Border Security Force (BSF) jawan, who had inadvertently crossed over to Bangladesh, was returned by the Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB) on Tuesday after a flag meeting.

The incident was reported around 10.30 a.m. in north Bengal when BSF constable Upal Kumar Das reportedly entered Bangladesh while he was patrolling the area.

A BSF official said that the constable had noticed the movement of a few Bangladeshi nationals near the zero line.

"The land beyond the zero line is used for cultivation by people on both sides of the border. When the constable noticed that some people from Bangladesh had come to the Indian side, he asked them to return. He crossed over to Bangladesh and was detained by the locals there, and was later handed over to the BGB," the official said.

BSF officials contacted their counterparts in Bangladesh, and following a flag meeting, the jawan returned unharmed around 4 p.m. the same day, the official said.

The BSF has been on a heightened alert after Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina stepped down and escaped to India on August 5.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

HC restrains social media from using live-streamed court proceedings

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three social media platforms and five private YouTube channels told to delete all live-streamed videos of court proceedings

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday temporarily restrained social media platforms YouTube, META and X from sharing the live-streamed court proceedings with immediate effect and till further order.

It also restrained five private channels on YouTube – Kahale News, Fans Troll, Prathidhvani, Avaniyana, and Ravindra Joshi Creations – from uploading the live-streamed videos from the High Court's official YouTube channel.

The court directed the three platforms and the five private YouTube channels to delete with immediate effect all the live-streamed videos of the proceedings uploaded on their platforms in violation of Rule 10 of the Karnataka Rules on Live-Streaming and Recording of Court Proceedings, 2021. Justice Hemant Chandangoudar passed the interim order on a petition filed by the Advocates' Association, Bengaluru (AAB).

Meanwhile, the court ordered the issue of notices to the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the State government, the Registrar-General of the High Court, the social media platforms, and the private YouTube channels.

The AAB had complained that the social media platforms and the private YouTube channels were editing the videos of live-streamed proceedings of the High Court of Karnataka on its official YouTube channel contrary to the rules, which prohibit it.

It has been contended in the petition that a new trend of misusing videos of live-streamed court proceedings has become rampant for commercial and entertainment purposes.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 6

XIME Xavier Institute of Management & Entrepreneurship

Bangalore needs

• **Faculty in all management disciplines**
for Bangalore, Kochi and Chennai Campuses
Qualification: As per AICTE Guidelines

• **Faculty Associates**
To assist Senior Faculty in Teaching & Research. First class MBA, MA (Eco.), MA (HR), M.Com./M.Phil.

• **Chief Librarian**
With suitable qualifications and experience

• **Financial Controller**
CA with 10 years' relevant experience

• **Project Manager**
A civil engineer with at least 10 years' experience of independently managing all the activities at work sites completing the jobs with quality and in good time in projects of over ₹ 20 crores.

• **Hostel Wardens**
(For both Boys & Girls Hostels) Suitably experienced

• **Manager (Admin.)** for XIME Kochi

• **Accounts Officer** for XIME Kochi
Master's Degree with 7-10 years of experience in the relevant area.
Compensation will be based on experience.

XIME is a leading Business School of India with NBA and ACBSP Accreditation. In addition to its Flagship PGDM Programme, XIME is active in Research and Executive Development Programmes.

Apply with detailed biodata in 7 days to:
secretary@xime.org
Electronics City, Hosur Road, Bangalore-100.
Mob: 9845280734 Website: www.xime.org

We focus on meditation and try to imagine match pressure

Running is the best practice for managing the heartbeat, but para archers like me can't do it; while the matches in the compound categories were going on in Paris, I sat in the upper stands and visualised my own upcoming competition

GETTY IMAGES

INTERVIEW

HARVINDER SINGH

Nihit Sachdeva

India entered the recent edition of the Paralympics in Paris with high optimism and positive energy when it came to the sport of archery.

While Sheetal Devi, India's first armless archer and Rakesh Kumar justified that excitement by clinching a bronze medal in the mixed team compound open event on September 2, no one could have predicted the manner in which Harvinder Singh would bag a historic gold medal in the men's individual recurve open category two days later.

Three years after clinching India's first-ever Paralympic medal in archery - a bronze in Tokyo - the 33-year-old Singh went all the way in Paris and won gold in the most dominant fashion - a 6-0 victory over Poland's Lukasz Ciszek in the final.

Harvinder, who hails from a middle-class farming family in Kaithal, a remote village in Haryana, had dengue when he was just one-and-half years old and a local doctor administered him an injection that had an adverse effect and his left leg stopped working properly.

Excerpts:

Let's start from the end. How was the first conversation with your family after the historic gold medal?

Actually, I really wanted to speak to my family after reaching the final since the medal had been assured and they must have been so happy but I also had to make sure that my focus remained on the summit clash. Moments after winning the final and completing a few formalities, I spoke with my family through another phone since I did not want to switch on my own device. I had the mixed team matches the next day.

I had a video call with my wife, Manpreet, and father, Paramjit, and they were really happy. My father got really emotional and told me, "I am proud of you, *beta*." What more can a son ask for?

I do miss my mother, Harbhajan Kaur, who passed away in 2018 due to a heart attack, especially in moments like these when you have achieved something. You do feel the absence of your beloved family member but accepting the reality is what maturity is about. She is always there in my memories and thoughts whenever I win a medal and her blessings are always there with me.

You got married after the Paralympics in Tokyo and have a son now. How has that changed your life as an athlete?

I got engaged before Tokyo. Now, the destinies of my wife and child are also attached to me. Their prayers are with me. Also, you are mentally at peace as along with a care-taker, my wife too is there to look after my father who has a few health issues. My son keeps him busy. Another thing is that there are more people to celebrate with you in your happy moments.

Coming to your performance at the Paralympics. In Tokyo, you had very close matches - three went to shoot-offs. In Paris, there was not even one. Was there a conscious effort this time to avoid shoot-offs?

Shoot-offs bring a lot of pressure. My aim was not to let things go down to the wire and try to finish the match as soon as possible. I managed to achieve this in the final which I won 6-0.

A matter of a few millimetres can decide the winner in the shoot-off and obviously, there is a lot of pressure. Even though I had experience of handling shoot-offs, it was better not to get into those situations. This was my thought process. This is how I practised and I was able to apply that in the tournament.

Did you follow the archery team's performance at the Olympics? Did close defeats and heartbreaks from those matches and the fact that Rakesh Kumar finished fourth in the men's individual compound open in Paralympics play a role in this mentality of yours to avoid tense finishes?

I did follow the Olympics and what I learned from the matches I watched was to finish the set with a 10. It does not matter if you have two 10s or a 10 and an 8. The third arrow is the decider. It would either be a '10 to win' or a '10 to tie.'

I focused on finishing the set with a 10 during my practice sessions and I did find success in this during the quarterfinals, semifinals and the final.

> Physical strength is the key. Limitations are the reason for lower scores in para archery. These limitations do not allow us to use heavy poundage. I have a problem with my body balance as my weight is more on the right leg

After Tokyo, you did win a bronze medal in men's doubles at the Hangzhou Asian Games but in terms of individual category, there was a little bit of inconsistency. In the ranking round in Paris, you finished ninth and you mentioned (in an interview with World Archery) that you felt a bit under-confident since you expect better from yourself. Did it help that there was a gap between the ranking round (held on August 29) and the elimination stage (held on September 4)?

We had been training in Champagne, which is about 100 km away from Paris, for 15 days. I was shooting better than the world record during my practice sessions under good weather conditions there. However, when we arrived in Paris, my scores took a hit. In the ranking round, I shot 637 when I expected something above 650. I was disappointed but my experience told me that in the larger context, ranking did not matter. In Tokyo, I finished 21st in the ranking round and won a bronze (USA's Kevin Mather, who was 17th, grabbed the gold). The five-day gap really helped. The daily practice sessions of two to two-and-a-half hours allowed me to plan my strategy for the elimination stage.

Do you believe in luck? In your first match against Chinese Taipei's Tseng Lung-Hui, you started well but there was a point where he needed an eight to win the fourth set but instead, he hit a six. When your opponent makes such a mistake, do you ever feel like 'Today is my day and I can't let this chance go'?

I don't believe solely in luck. Hard work and luck both go together.

Archery is an unpredictable sport. For example, in my matches, I needed a 10 to win and I got it. In the semifinal, I needed an eight to seal the victory and I got an eight. The players feel a lot of pressure and it also leads to completely missing the target at times. Both my opponents in the first two rounds missed the target once. I have also seen instances where someone needs a nine to win and they end up with an eight, handing over victory to the opponent. It is due to the pressure of the situation.

In the bronze medal match in the mixed team event, our opponents hit two 10s (actually, a nine and a 10) in the shoot-off. The same players had hit a five and a 10 in the shoot-off in the semifinals.

So, archers should not lose hope till their last arrow. They should believe in their hard work and luck too since the sport is so unpredictable.

In your first match, you had just one shot of 10. After that, in every match, you had at least three 10s. In quarterfinals and semifinals, all 10s came in the final arrows of the sets. Did something change after the first match?

Firstly, I had never played in front of so many people. Even in Tokyo, there were no spectators. Also, most of our competitions take place on the ground level. So, I was not used to shooting from a podium. I did feel that pressure in the first match. I somehow got through it and I feel I should have finished it earlier than when it actually did.

After that match, I was psychologically prepared for the podium, the audience and its reactions after every shot and took it positively.

From the high of winning a gold in the individual event, you, along with Pooja Jatyan, had that unfortunate fourth-place finish in the mixed team event the next day...

I had a few interviews and formalities till late night when I won gold in the individual event but I knew that I had another event the next day. So, I did not switch on my mobile phone in order to stay focused. Our first two matches took place when it was raining. After losing the semifinal, we don't want to leave without a medal. Personally, it would have been a historic achievement to win two Paralympic medals in the same edition.

Both of us were trying to guide each other but Pooja, who had only won a World Championship medal in 2022, was feeling a lot of pressure. Unfortunately, we lost the match to Slovenia in the shoot-off. I had won gold a day before but more than that, I was disappointed because my partner in the mixed team category was returning home without a medal. It took some time to overcome that disappointment but we are determined to do better next time.

Para Archery is a whole different challenge altogether since you have certain physical limitations. In your case, how do you manage your body balance and your heart rate?

Physical strength is the key. Limitations are the reason for lower scores in para archery. These limitations do not allow us to use heavy poundage (the force required to pull the bowstring back to its maximum length). I have a problem with my body balance as my weight is more on the right leg.

As soon as I shoot an arrow, I go into rest mode and my body weight is entirely on my right leg. When the arrow is in position, then I put weight on both legs and shoot.

Running is the best practice for managing the heartbeat but para archers like me can't do it. So, we focus on meditation and try to imagine the match pressure and it helps us. While the matches in the compound categories were going on in Paris, I sat in the upper stands and visualised my own upcoming competition.

How did sports science help in improving your performance post Tokyo?

About six months ago, SAI Sonipat invited Korean coach Kim Hyung Tak who brought a software with him for video analysis. That helped both the Olympic and the Paralympic archers. He also made minor changes to my shooting technique. He gave some instructions to my coaches Jiwanjot Singh Teja and Gaurav Sharma.

Jiwanjot Sir, who is my mentor and taught me the basics of the sport, had shifted abroad a few years ago. However, after my bronze medal in Tokyo, he received the Dronacharya Award in 2022 and he came back to India. He is at SAI Sonipat and training under both him and Gaurav Sharma sir helped me prepare for Paris.

Sri. Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka

Telugu and Maharashtra States' Leading Hospital Chain is now in Namma Bengaluru

MEDICOVER HOSPITALS
WHITEFIELDS

Inauguration by
The Honorable
Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka,
Sri. D.K. Shivakumar

Date: 25th September 2024
Time: 11:30am

SPECIAL GUESTS

Sri. Satish Jarkiholi
Hon'ble PWD Minister

Sri. Dinesh Gundu Rao
Hon'ble Health & Family Welfare Minister

GUEST OF HONOUR

Sri. Basavaraj Bommai
MP - Haveri, Former Chief Minister of Karnataka

Smt. Manjula Aravind Limbavali
MLA - Mahadevapura

Sri. N. A. Haris
MLA - Shanti Nagar

INVITED BY

Dr. G. Anil Krishna
Chairman & Managing Director
Medicover Hospitals

Dr. Rakshit Palalochana
BE (Mechanical), PGDMS,
PHD - Immunology & Genetics (Oncology)

Dr. A. Sharath Reddy
Executive Director
Medicover Hospitals

Mr. P. Hari Krishna
Executive Director
Medicover Hospitals

Dr. A. R. Krishna Prasad
Director
Medicover Hospitals

MEDICOVER BENGALURU HIGHLIGHTS

- 100+ Expert Doctors
- World Class Cathlab, Robotics, MRI, CT & Operation Theatres etc.,
- 30+ Specialities
- ★★★★★ Hospital, Personalised Care
- Cashless Admission with Insurances & TPA's
- 200 Car Parking Facility

MEDICOVER HIGHLIGHTS

- 13 Countries
- 40+ Hospitals
- 7000+ Beds
- 3000+ ICU Beds
- 200+ Operation Theatres
- 2 Crore + Patients Treated
- 1700+ Doctors
- 45000+ Employees

MEDICOVER HOSPITALS NETWORK - INDIA: KARNATAKA | TELANGANA | ANDHRA PRADESH | MAHARASHTRA | PROVIDING HEALTHCARE SERVICES IN 12 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

After a decade-long wait, Yelahanka gas plant is finally commissioned

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Energy Minister K.J. George promise residents who have been protesting that they will ensure noise from the plant is kept to a minimum

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka's first combined cycle gas plant at Yelahanka that was inaugurated on Tuesday. JAHNAVI T.R.

Ten years after the foundation stone was laid, the 370-megawatt (MW) capacity combined cycle gas plant in Yelahanka was inaugurated by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday.

The Chief Minister and Energy Minister K. J. George both promised residents, who have been protesting against the commissioning of the plant on grounds of pollution, they will ensure noise from the plant will be kept to a minimum.

"It has been brought to my notice that residents of nearby apartments have concerns about the noise from this gas plant. I promise them that we will reduce this noise as much as possible," said Mr. Siddaramaiah who had laid the foundation stone for the plant in his previous tenure as Chief Minister.

Stressing on the need to achieve self sufficiency in electricity for socio-economic development, he said: "for the development of agriculture, industries and for domestic consumption, electricity is needed. Agriculture and industries create jobs and through jobs the gross domestic product (GDP) of the State and the country will increase. This plant has been commissioned as a step in the direction of becoming self-sufficient in the power sector".

The gas plant is a project of Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) and around ₹2,500 crore investment has gone into it till now.

"This plant should have been commissioned years ago. But owing to a fire accident, work had stopped for a year and then because of a lack of initiative by the previous government, the plant was shut down even after it was repaired. There was also the Supreme Court stay which was brought upon by the residents citing noise pollution. When we came back to power, we sorted out all the issues and gave a strict deadline for the officials. With cooperation even from the Union government, we could complete the work and commission it," Mr. George said.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who also spoke during the inauguration, said that the whole world is looking at Bengaluru and Karnataka, and hence the government should provide proper water and electricity to the citizens.

Mr. Siddaramaiah announced a bonus of ₹5,000 to all the employees of the KPCL combined cycle gas plant. "I am announcing this in my capacity as chairman of KPCL," he said.

DKS goes on night rounds to check road conditions

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar inspected road repair works, including the filling of potholes and other development projects being carried out by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), early on Tuesday.

Before going to the United States of America, Mr. Shivakumar had spoken tough and warned jurisdictional officers of being held accountable and suspended if he found any potholes during his inspection after the 15-day deadline.

Although the deadline to fill all potholes in the city ended on September 21, the BBMP continued the pothole filling exercise and civic officials said that this was a dynamic process and new potholes appeared and they have to be filled.

Mr. Shivakumar, while he visited several road stretches where work was on, said no action had been taken against any officials.

Mr. Shivakumar visited Jayamahal Road to inspect the quality of the ongoing asphalt work.

During the inspection, he instructed officials to ensure that the road repairs were being carried out according to high-quality standards.

At Trinity junction, Mr. Shivakumar inspected the milling work being undertaken to resurface damaged roads.

'Niranjan could have been saved had playground gate been repaired properly'

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

The Rajashankar Playground at Malleswaram. SUDHAKARA JAIN

About three years ago, the gate of Rajashankar Playground at Malleswaram, popularly called Kulla Park, fell down. Had the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) ensured good quality work during its repair back then, the life of 11-year-old Niranjan, who died when the gate fell him on Sunday, would perhaps have been saved, according to residents.

Residents around the park at Malleswaram say that earlier this park had a small gate and about four years ago, a new one was constructed by the civic body. However, a little later, a part of the gate fell but there was no casualty.

Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday also pointed out that as per a preliminary report on the incident, a work order was issued for the repair of the park's metal gate back in 2021, but the work was not carried out satisfactorily. Many lapses were noticed in the maintenance of the ground.

Ramakrishna, a vendor near the ground, told *The Hindu* that the gate was in a dilapidated condition for at least the last seven months. "But the BBMP did not do anything. Niranjan was killed owing to the neglect of authorities," said Mr. Ramakrishna.

Another park visitor, who did not wish to be named, said the hinges of the gate were loose and the tragedy was inevitable. "I had warned a few children to carefully open the gates," he said.

In fact, poor maintenance is the bane of many playgrounds in the city.

The Hindu found that at another ground at Malleswaram 8th Block, rods were temporarily perched close to a gap in the broken fence. At a playground at Hombegowda Nagar (Ward No. 145) in Chickpet Assembly segment, construction work that commenced about one-and-a-half years ago has not been completed yet.

Amaresh S., civic activist, said that nothing had changed despite residents urging the BBMP to complete the work.

The situation at a ground near National College, where construction work was under way at a snail's pace is worse. The drains inside the premises are open and people also dump waste inside the ground as BBMP staff are not supervising the site.

This state of affairs, at least partially, is owing to the fact that there is no clarity on who exactly is responsible for these grounds. The BBMP does not have a dedicated cell and maintenance funds for grounds, unlike for lakes and parks.

The development of grounds is currently done under MLA grants or other grants. The civic body has no clue as to how many grounds are operating under the BBMP.

Records on these open spaces are maintained by the Urban Development Department (UDD). Unless data is shared with the BBMP, nothing can be done, said an official.

Meanwhile, Mr. Shivakumar on Tuesday said that he had ordered the suspension of Assistant Engineer Srinivas Raju for dereliction of duty. Steps are being taken to suspend Assistant Executive Engineers K. Shanthala, Devaraju, and Baby Ayesha Hussain. Executive Engineer L. Venkatesh has been given a show-cause notice.

Munirathna remanded in SIT custody till October 5

Munirathna

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Munirathna, BJP MLA for R.R. Nagar, on Tuesday was remanded in the custody of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) for 12 days till October 5.

The SIT petitioned the Special Court of Magistrate for criminal cases against former and present MPs and MLAs seeking his custody on Monday. However, the court had adjourned the case to Tuesday.

The court remanded the MLA in 12 days police custody when the case came up for hearing on Tuesday.

SIT officials took his custody from the Central Prison and he is now holed up in the CID office, from where the SIT operates.

There are three cases against Munirathna. The SIT probe comes amid growing concerns over intimidation of witnesses and destruction of evidence.

A FIR was registered against a close associate of Munirathna for threatening a witness in the rape case on Sunday. The case has also been transferred to the SIT. M. Velu Nayakar, who is a complainant in a caste abuse case, informed the Chief Minister on Monday that the MLA's supporters had been threatening him of dire consequences if he took on the MLA.

NIA chargesheets two more in Shivamogga IS conspiracy case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Tuesday filed a supplementary chargesheet against two more persons in the Shivamogga IS conspiracy case, taking the total number of accused chargesheeted in the case to 10.

The NIA has now chargesheeted IS-inspired radicals, Abdul Matheen Ahmed Taaha and Mussavir Hussain Shazib, who were earlier chargesheeted by the NIA in The Rameshwaram Café blast case and for their involvement in the Al-Hind IS module, Bengaluru.

Both residents of Shivamogga have been on the run after fleeing arrest in the Al-Hind module case since 2020 and put together the Tirthahalli module with their associates. They are the alleged kingpins in the case.

"The two men were engaged in radicalising and recruiting Muslim youths, including the co-accused, in the instant case," the NIA said in a statement on Tuesday.

"The case, taken over by the NIA from Karnataka police in November 2022, relates to the anti-India activities of the proscribed terrorist organisation Islamic State. The accused were involved in violent activities like arson, trial explosions and burning of the Indian flag," NIA said in a statement on Tuesday.

ADVERTISEMENT

Know the Disease - Ovarian Cancer

Introduction

Ovarian cancer is often diagnosed at advanced stages due to its subtle symptoms. It is the eighth most common cancer among women globally, with nearly 314,000 new cases annually[1]. In India, it is the third most prevalent cancer among women, with an incidence rate of around 10 per 100,000 women. Factors such as lifestyle changes, increased life expectancy, and limited screening contribute to this high burden[6,7] Cultural stigma and inadequate healthcare access further complicate early detection in India.

Dr. Amit Rauthan
HOD & Consultant – Medical Oncology
Bangalore

Risk Factors

Several factors increase the risk of ovarian cancer:

1. **Family History:** Women with close relatives who have had ovarian, breast, or colorectal cancer are at higher risk, especially if they carry BRCA 1 or BRCA2 gene mutations[3].
2. **Age:** Most cases occ ur in women over 50[5].
3. **Reproductive History:** Women who have never been pregnant or have a history of endometriosis are at greater risk[4].
4. **Menstrual and Hormonal Factors:** Early menstruation, late menopause, and hormone replacement therapy, particularly estrogen-only therapy, can increase risk[2].
5. **Lifestyle:** Obesity and high-fat diets are linked to a higher risk. Conversely, oral contraceptives, tubal ligation, and breastfeeding can reduce the risk[1].

Symptoms and Diagnosis

Symptoms of ovarian cancer are often non-specific, including bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, and changes in urinary habits[4]. Persistent symptoms warrant a consultation with a healthcare provider. Diagnosis typically starts with a pelvic examination, followed by imaging tests like transvaginal ultrasound or CT scans. The CA-125 blood test may help but is not used alone for diagnosis[5]. A definitive diagnosis is made through surgery, where tissue samples are examined to determine the cancer's stage and type[5].

Prognosis and Survival Rates

Prognosis varies with the stage of diagnosis. Localized ovarian cancer has a five year survival rate of about 93%, regional spread disease about 75% and distant spread about 31% respectively. The all stage combined 5 year survival rate is about 50%. Early detection and treatment are crucial for improving survival rates[5].

When to See a Doctor

Due to the subtle nature of ovarian cancer symptoms, it is essential to monitor any persistent changes and consult a healthcare provider. Women with a family history of ovarian or breast cancer should consider genetic counseling and regular screenings[3].

Conclusion

Increased awareness and early detection can significantly improve outcomes in Ovarian Cancer. Understanding risk factors, recognizing symptoms, and timely medical consultation are key to effective management and improved survival.

References:

1. *Bray F, Ferlay J, Soerjomataram I, et al. Global cancer statistics 2018: GLOBOCAN estimates of incidence and mortality worldwide for 36 cancers in 185 countries. CA Cancer J Clin. 2018;68(6):394-424.*
2. *Momenimovahed Z, Tiznobaik A, Taheri S, Salehiniya H. Ovarian cancer in the world: epidemiology and risk factors. Int J Womens Health. 2019;11:287-299.*
3. *Kuchenbaecker KB, Hopper JL, Barnes DR, et al. Risks of breast, ovarian, and contralateral breast cancer for BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutation carriers. JAMA. 2017;317(23):2402-2416.*
4. *Goff BA, Mandel LS, Melancon CH, Muntz HG. Frequency of symptoms of ovarian cancer in women presenting to primary care clinics. JAMA. 2004;291(22):2705-2712.*
5. *Prat J, FIGO Committee on Gynecologic Oncology. Staging classification for cancer of the ovary, fallopian tube, and peritoneum. Int J Gynaecol Obstet. 2014;124(1):1-5.*
6. *Mallath MK, Taylor DG, Badwe RA, et al. The growing burden of cancer in India: epidemiology and social context. Lancet Oncol. 2014;15(6).*
7. *Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, et al. Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer; 2020. Available from: https://gco.iarc.fr/today. Accessed August 2024.*

Approval ID: IN-15061 Approval Date: 12/09/2024
Expiry ID: 12/09/2026
Disclaimer: This article is for general awareness of the people and should not be construed as treatment advice. Please consult your doctor in case you have any symptoms or require further information/clarification. **This public awareness initiative is supported by AstraZeneca Pharma India Limited.**

Fi India
BIEC, Bengaluru
25-27 September 2024
18TH EDITION ESTD.2006
informa markets
India's leading food ingredients event is here!
Connect with cutting-edge suppliers and discover future-focused solutions in the food and beverage industry.
Co-located with PROPAK INDIA
#PackedWithSuccess
Opens Today
#IngredientsOfTheFuture
Show Features
Fi India Awards
B2B Conferences
Innovative Product Showcase
Live Demonstration
Fund Quest
Global Trend Zone
B2B Matchmaking
Association Partners
Media Partners
Scan to Access Uber
Scan for Shuttle Service
Get an exclusive discount of Rs. 200 on Uber rides
*Applicable to first 1000 Visitors
Free Shuttle Service Available: Scan QR to access schedule
Scan to Register
For Registration-related queries: Seema Rajbhar
+91 7977507496 seema.rajbhar@informa.com
Follow us on:
This is a trade show. Entry restricted for individuals below 18 years of age and infants in arms right of admission reserved with Informa Markets

Beads on the moon suggest it had volcanoes more recently than thought

The findings are based on China's Chang'e-5 mission and raise a new mystery that future missions could help answer. For example, Chandrayaan-4 is poised to conduct on-site sampling and analysis of lunar materials, which may include rocks from volcanic periods in the moon's history

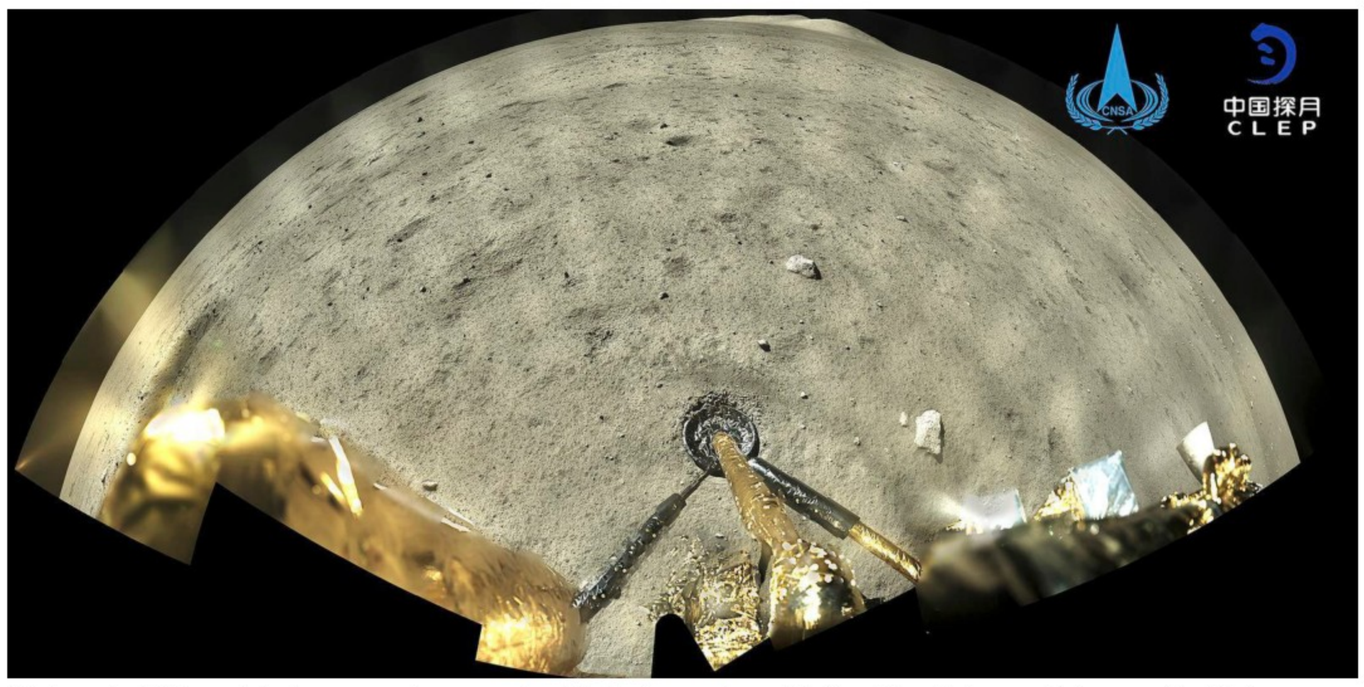
Tejasri Gururaj

Scientists widely believed volcanic activity on the moon ceased about a billion years ago. A study published in *Science* on September 5 called this idea into question with evidence suggesting the moon had active volcanoes as recently as 120 million years ago.

The moon's volcanic activity sheds light on how its surface was formed, its atmospheric conditions, and its tectonic activity. Volcanoes can also create conditions suitable for life by releasing water and providing energy and nutrients.More recent research using remote-sensing data from satellites has found signs of volcanic activity from around 800 million years ago, but no exact date for the activity itself.

Researchers behind the new study, led by Bi-Wen Wang of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, investigated moon samples collected by China's Chang'e-5 mission.

They focused their analysis on lunar glass beads – small spherical or egg-shaped glass pieces formed by volcanic activity or impact events like when rocks from space smash the moon's surface.



This December 2020 image taken by a panoramic camera onboard the lander-ascender combination of Chang'e-5 spacecraft shows a patch of the lunar surface after it landed on the moon. AP

The moon-made specks

The way high-energy events create glass beads on the moon is similar to how tektites formed from impacts and volcanic rock (like obsidian) from eruptions on the earth.

In volcanic eruptions, magma from the moon's surface throws up lava fragments. When these fragments cool quickly, they form the beads.

Likewise, the surface rock and soil melt under the intense pressure and heat produced by asteroid or meteorite impacts. The melted material is tossed into the air, where it rapidly cools and lands on the surface as glassy beads.

The materials thrown into the air are spherical because they take the least amount of energy to form.

This is also why water droplets are spherical in space or egg-shaped on the earth, where gravity stretches them a little.

The glass beads' atoms are arranged in a haphazard manner. They're composed of silicon, magnesium, and iron with trace amounts of potassium, titanium, and uranium.

A volcano within a bead

Volcanic glass beads are typically more uniform, while impact beads may display shock features like fractures or deformations.

Nonetheless, identifying how some beads originated is challenging because they are derived from similar rocks.

The presence of elements from an impactor that are no longer found on the moon's surface is another characteristic of impact glass beads. Volcanic glass beads, on the other hand, can have greater amounts of volatile elements, including sulphur emitted during eruptions.

None of these criteria are conclusive by themselves: scientists use many of them together to ascertain a bead's origins.

The samples collected by Chang'e-5 were from Statio Tianchuan, near the volcanic complex Mons Rümker and part of a terrain known for its elevated heat-producing elements, thin crust, and prolonged volcanic activity.

The researchers analysed more than 3,000 bead samples, examining their physical features to look for patterns that would reveal clues to their origins.

They also studied the samples' chemical composition to identify the most and least abundant elements present and compared them to known impact and volcanic glass compositions.

The team also looked out for evidence of incomplete melting, a characteristic of asteroid or meteorite impact.

Two and two together

From the 3,000 samples, the researchers shortlisted 13 for sulphur isotope analysis.

Isotopes are atoms of the same element that have an equal number of protons in their nuclei but different numbers of neutrons. Isotope analysis reveals the various quantities of isotopes in a sample. The researchers compared the sulphur isotope ratios in the beads with established values from older samples. This approach provides insights into a substance's origin

The samples collected by Chang'e-5 were from Statio Tianchuan and part of a terrain known for its elevated heat-producing elements, thin crust, and prolonged volcanic activity

and the processes that helped form it.

The researchers' analysis revealed that three of the 13 samples were from volcanic activity.

Then they used the uranium-lead radiometric dating method to accurately date the materials present in these samples. The method works by assessing the quantity of uranium isotopes that have decayed to lead isotopes, which happens at a predictable time-rate.

They determined the ages of the three volcanic samples to be 116–135 million years. The composition of the glass beads also indicated they came from a magmatic source.

While the age of the volcanic samples overlapped with those of impact glass beads collected by Chang'e-5, additional evidence based on mineral composition, sulphur isotope ratios, and lead isotopes pointed to a volcanic origin for the three beads.

Ergo, the moon may have had volcanic activity 116–135 million years ago.

A mystery erupts

The researchers' use of sulphur isotope ratios was novel.

Sulphur isotopes aren't commonly used to identify the origin of materials on celestial bodies. Scientists instead rely on techniques based on carbon, oxygen, and lead. But volcanic activity makes sulphur a better choice primarily because it releases sulphur dioxide gas.

The research team also showed the moon was volcanically active as recently as 120 million years ago, refuting previous claims. The three volcanic glass beads contained high concentrations of potassium, rare earth elements, phosphorus, sodium, and thorium, suggesting the source was rich in these elements.

According to the researchers, the presence of these minerals in the glass beads suggests they played a role in causing lunar volcanic activity by producing the heat required for an eruption.

Chances for Chandrayaans

We now have a new question: even as the moon's interior cooled and its lithosphere thickened, how did volcanic activity continue for such a long time?

Future Chandrayaan missions could help answer this question. Chandrayaan-4 is poised to conduct on-site sampling and analysis of lunar materials, which may include rocks from volcanic periods in the moon's history.

The Chandrayaan missions are also set to explore the lunar poles. This could help scientists study preserved lunar ice that may hold gases released during ancient volcanic eruptions.

(Tejasri Gururaj is a freelance science writer and journalist with a master's degree in physics.tejasrigururaj@gmail.com)

THE GIST

The moon's volcanic activity reveals how its surface formed, its atmospheric conditions, and tectonic activity. Remote-sensing data has found signs of volcanic activity from 800 million years ago, but no exact date for the activity itself

Researchers focused on lunar glass beads — small glass pieces formed by volcanic activity or impact events like when rocks from space smash the moon's surface. Volcanic beads are uniform, while impact beads may display shock features like fractures

The ages of the three volcanic samples were determined to be 116–135 million years. While the age overlapped with those of the impact beads, other evidence pointed to a volcanic origin

BIG SHOT

Fish schools swim past a diver in the Mediterranean sea off the coast of Batroun, Lebanon. The world's oceans are close to becoming too acidic to properly sustain marine life or help stabilise the climate, a new report by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research has said. AFP

QUESTION CORNER

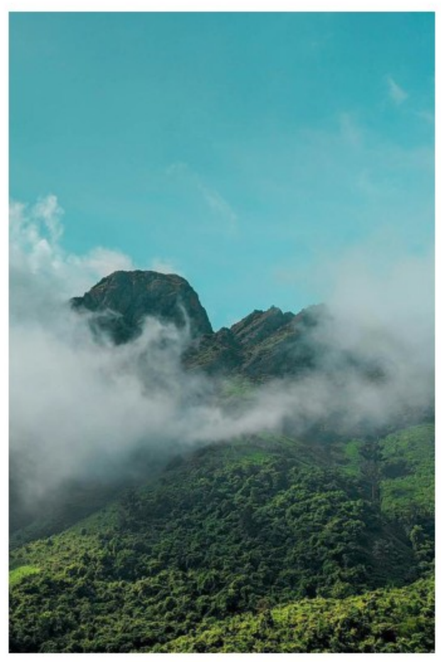
The freezing upper deck

Q: Why is it colder at higher altitudes?--*Lakshminarayanan S.*

A: Measurements reveal that, as we go up into the atmosphere, the air temperature decreases with height from the ground up to about 15-20 km in the troposphere. Beyond this, it increases in the stratosphere up to a height of 50 km. Again, it decreases in the mesosphere up to 80 km and finally increases in the ionosphere.

Solar radiation heats the earth's surface far more than the air through which it travels. The heat at the surface is transported by convective expansion into the atmosphere. An atmosphere conditioned by convective expansion will have relatively cooler temperatures at higher levels. This holds good in a hydrostatically stable atmosphere, under adiabatic conditions (i.e., when entropy is constant), which is true of planetary or stellar atmospheres.

But the real atmosphere is not static. It is dynamic with constant motion. The thermodynamic processes are not adiabatic as radiation from outside the atmosphere enters, and the atmosphere also radiates away the heat into outer space. Still, the departures from hydrostatic and adiabatic conditions are small, and the temperature decreases with height.



A view of clouds rolling over a mountain peak in Deomali, Odisha. MOHAN VAMSI SOMIREDDI

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Sri. Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka

Telugu and Maharashtra States' Leading Hospital Chain is now in Namma Bengaluru

MEDICOVER
HOSPITALS

WHITEFIELDS

Inauguration by

The Honorable
Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka,

Sri. D.K. Shivakumar

Date: 25th September 2024
Time: 11:30am

SPECIAL GUESTS

Sri. Satish Jarkiholi
Hon'ble PWD Minister

Sri. Dinesh Gundu Rao
Hon'ble Health &
Family Welfare Minister

GUEST OF HONOUR

Sri. Basavaraj Bommai
MP - Haveri, Former Chief Minister of Karnataka

Smt. Manjula Aravind Limbavali
MLA - Mahadevapura

Sri. N. A. Haris
MLA - Shanti Nagar

INVITED BY

Dr. G. Anil Krishna
Chairman & Managing Director
Medicover Hospitals

Dr. Rakshit Palalochana
BE (Mechanical), PGDMS,
PHD - Immunology & Genetics (Oncology)

Dr. A. Sharath Reddy
Executive Director
Medicover Hospitals

Mr. P. Hari Krishna
Executive Director
Medicover Hospitals

Dr. A. R. Krishna Prasad
Director
Medicover Hospitals

MEDICOVER BENGALURU HIGHLIGHTS

- 100+ Expert Doctors
- World Class Cathlab, Robotics, MRI, CT & Operation Theatres etc.,
- 30+ Specialities
- ★★★★★ Hospital, Personalised Care
- Cashless Admission with Insurances & TPA's
- 200 Car Parking Facility

MEDICOVER HIGHLIGHTS

13	40+	7000+	3000+	200+	2 Crore +	1700+	45000+
Countries	Hospitals	Beds	ICU Beds	Operation Theatres	Patients Treated	Doctors	Employees

MEDICOVER HOSPITALS NETWORK - INDIA: KARNATAKA | TELANGANA | ANDHRA PRADESH | MAHARASHTRA | PROVIDING HEALTHCARE SERVICES IN 12 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Two-day death toll from Israeli strikes in Lebanon

588 Lebanon's Health Ministry said on Tuesday that the death toll from Israeli airstrikes in Lebanon over the past two days of escalation has reached 558, including 50 children and 94 women. AP

Number of militants who laid down arms before Tripura CM

500 Tripura CM Manik Saha welcomed the militants belonging to the outlawed groups, the National Liberation Front of Tripura and All Tripura Tiger Force, in Sepahijala district. PTI

Number of dengue cases reported in a week in Delhi

300 As per Municipal Corporation of Delhi's data from January till September 21, a total of 1,229 dengue cases have been reported. The city has also reported 363 malaria cases. PTI

Number of 'illegal settlers' evicted from Assam forest land

2,000 About 450 families were evicted from 55-60 hectares of forest land in Goalpara district of Assam, an official said. This occured as part of an eviction drive. PTI

Number of people who crossed into Syria from Lebanon

500 Around 500 people crossed the border through the Qusayr and Dabousiya crossings to war-torn Syria, fleeing the Israeli bombardments. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

Why the 'fact-checking' unit was invalidated

Why did the Bombay High Court strike down as "unconstitutional" the amended Information Technology (IT) Rules, 2021? What did the amended rules ask of social media intermediaries? How did the Supreme Court intervene in the matter?

EXPLAINER

Aaratrika Bhaumik

The story so far:

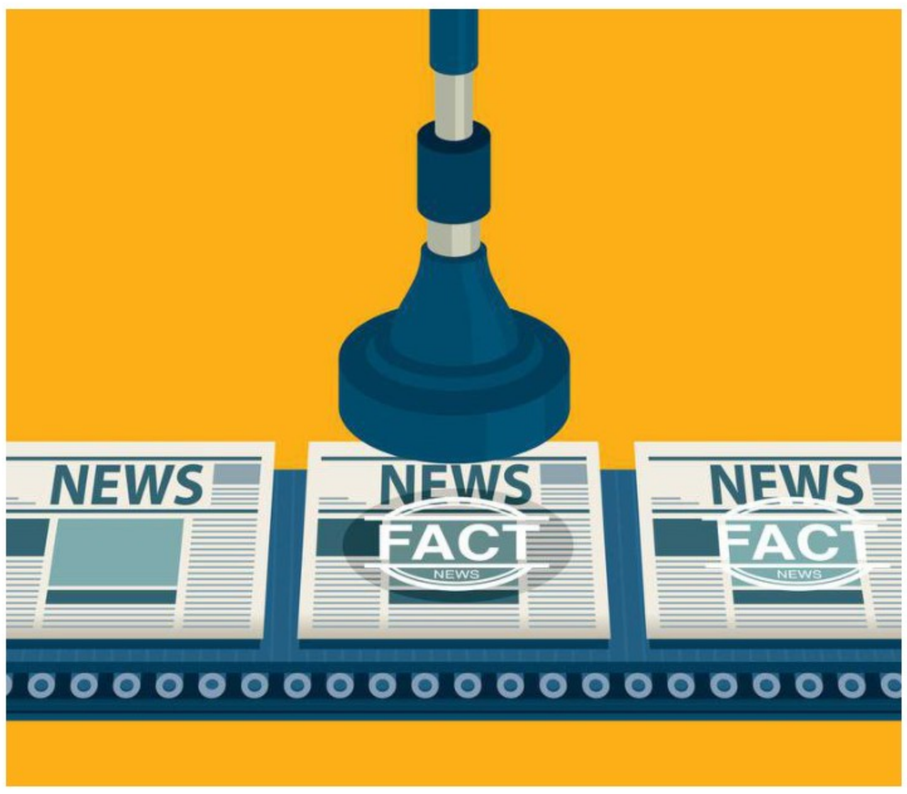
On September 20, the Bombay High Court struck down as "unconstitutional" and "vague" the amended Information Technology (IT) Rules, 2021, which empowered the Centre to establish a "Fact Check Unit" (FCU) to identify "fake or false or misleading" online content about the government and its establishments. Justice Atul Sharachchandra Chandurkar delivered the verdict as the "tie-breaker" judge after a division Bench comprising Justices G.S. Patel and Neela Gokhale pronounced a split verdict in January, 2024.

What was the law under challenge?

The Ministry of Electronics and IT (MEiTY) introduced the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Amendment Rules, 2023 (2023 Rules), amending the 2021 IT Rules.

This amendment vested the Union government with the authority to establish a fact-checking body empowered to classify any information "pertaining to the business of the Central government" as "fake, false, or misleading".

The amended Rule 3(1)(b)(v) specifically required social media intermediaries to make "reasonable efforts" to prevent users from uploading or transmitting any content flagged by the Centre's FCU as misinformation. Such flagged content would have to be taken down within 36 hours if the intermediaries wanted to retain their "safe harbour" protection – a form of legal immunity against any third-party content hosted by them. Within a week of their notification, the constitutional validity of the 2023 Rules was challenged before the High Court by Kunal Kamra, a political satirist and standup artist, the Editors Guild of India, and the Association of Indian Magazines.



GETTY IMAGES

What did the split verdict stipulate?

Justice Patel opined that the amended rules promoted censorship and did not fall within the ambit of reasonable restrictions permitted under Article 19(2) of the Constitution. He underscored that the absence of procedural safeguards or guidelines effectively made the Union government a "judge in its own cause". In contrast, Justice Gokhale reasoned that the government is best positioned to provide accurate information about itself and that the rules were intended solely to combat misinformation, without restricting legitimate criticism or political satire. She also dismissed allegations of bias by asserting that the mere fact that the FCU members were appointed by the government did not undermine their independence.

Did the Supreme Court intervene?

Following the split verdict, the Chief Justice of the High Court appointed Justice Chandurkar to hear the matter afresh and deliver a tie-breaking ruling, in accordance with the High Court rules. Subsequently, the petitioners filed applications seeking an interim stay on the notification of the FCU until the matter was finally adjudicated. However, Justice Chandurkar dismissed these applications on the ground that no *prima facie* case was made out to stall the establishment of the body.

On March 20, 2024, the Centre notified the FCU under the Press Information Bureau (PIB). However, the very next day, the Supreme Court stayed the operation of the notification until Justice Chandurkar took a final call on the validity of the amended rules. It reasoned that the challenge raised "serious constitutional questions" relating to the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression.

What did Justice Chandurkar rule?

Endorsing Justice Patel's view, Justice Chandurkar observed that the amended rules suffer from manifest arbitrariness and sought to impose restrictions on freedom of speech and expression beyond those defined under Article 19(2) of the Constitution. He noted that the expressions "fake, false or misleading" within the rules are "vague and overbroad", leaving ample room for potential misuse.

Highlighting that there was no clarity on how the FCU would identify any information to be patently false or misleading, the judge asserted that the "exercise would result in an unilateral determination by the executive itself". He also refused to accept the Centre's claim that the Rules would exclude political comments and satire by reasoning that "any assurance from one Government even if carried out faithfully would not bind a succeeding Government."

Notably, Justice Chandurkar observed that the mere ability of an aggrieved person to challenge FCU decisions in a constitutional court could not be regarded as an adequate safeguard. He accordingly concluded that the amended rules were liable to be struck down, as they created a "chilling effect" on intermediaries by jeopardising their safe harbour protection.

What happens next?

The Union government is likely to appeal the decision before the Supreme Court especially since the 2021 IT Rules are currently under challenge before the Delhi High Court and the Madras High Court. The ruling will also impact the legitimacy of similar fact-checking units established in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

THE GIST

- The amended Rule 3(1)(b)(v) specifically required social media intermediaries to make "reasonable efforts" to prevent users from uploading or transmitting any content flagged by the Centre's FCU as misinformation.
- Justice Chandurkar observed that the amended rules suffer from manifest arbitrariness and sought to impose restrictions on freedom of speech and expression beyond those defined under Article 19(2) of the Constitution. He noted that the expressions "fake, false or misleading" within the rules are "vague and overbroad", leaving ample room for potential misuse.
- The Union government is likely to appeal the decision before the Supreme Court.

What are retractions and why do they matter?

What is a retraction index? Why do researchers use potentially duplicated or manipulated work?

Atanu Biswas

The story so far:

According to the 'Retraction Watch' database, an Indian scientist at an institute in Lucknow has racked up 45 retractions. It also states that another researcher at a university in Kolkata published 300 scientific papers in a year, which is nearly a paper a day and impossible. This individual had six papers retracted, which cover an array of disciplines including chemistry and virology. Paper retractions are becoming more common worldwide even as the research misconduct problem is worsening in India.

What are retractions?

A retraction is a mechanism that kicks in when a scientific paper published in an academic journal is found to be so flawed as to merit being removed from scientific literature. The academic community is often understanding when a paper is retracted for an honest error but much less forgiving when a paper is pulled because it contains deliberately manipulated material. For example, the case of John Darsee, a young Harvard University cardiology researcher, stunned the academic community in the 1980s. He had over 80 papers retracted for spreading "inaccuracies and falsehoods".

Scientific fraud is surprisingly endemic: the list with Darsee includes Jan Hendrik Schön, Brian Wansink, Hwang Woo-suk, and of recent Ranga Dias as well, among others. Even Nobel laureates are not spared. Gregg Semenza, a professor at Johns Hopkins University and winner of the 2019 medicine Nobel Prize, has had 12 papers retracted over potentially duplicated or manipulated images.

How often are papers retracted?

Between 2020 and 2022, 2.5 times more papers were retracted than they were between 2017 and 2019. The reasons for retraction include plagiarism, editorial conflicts, image manipulation, and the use of paper mills. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many publishers had fast-tracked the peer-review process for papers they received from scientists. As a result, some 10,000 papers had to be retracted in 2023 because of quality and/or data issues. The number was only around 1,600 in 2013. In 2023, a German neuropsychologist named Bernhard Sabel published the results of using a fake-paper detector he had built: he found that a third of 5,000 neuroscience papers published in 2020 likely had plagiarised and/or falsified content.

What is the retraction index?

A journal's retraction index is the the number of retractions in a given time period multiplied by 1,000 and divided by the total number of published articles, according to a definition provided by scientists Ferric Fang and Arturo Casadevall in a September 2011 paper. They also showed that there's a greater chance of a paper being retracted from a high-impact journal than from a low-impact one. 'Impact' refers to the impact factor: the average number of times a paper was cited in last two years.

Why do scientists falsify papers?

Paper mills are enterprises that churn out fake or low-quality journal papers and sell them to scientists. Thousands of papers published in academic journals worldwide have been linked to Russian, Iranian, and Chinese paper mills.

One reason they're becoming more prevalent is because of research institutes' desire to improve their national and international university rankings, where the primary criterion is research output. In today's academic setting, one's paper count can determine one's chances of being promoted, securing grants and getting awards. PhD students are sometimes required to publish papers to graduate. This "publish or perish" culture encourages paper mills.

Misconduct makes scientists lose trust in one another and in literature. In a 2000 article in the journal *Nature*, H.N.J. Arst wrote, "All honest scientists are victims of scientists who commit misconduct." Retractions are thus a way for science to correct its mistakes.

Reducing the prevalence of misconduct is an open problem in research policymaking. It needs to answer questions like: can journals detect bad papers with AI and what is a way to evaluate research quality over quantity?

Atanu Biswas is professor of statistics, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata.

THE GIST

- A retraction is a mechanism that kicks in when a scientific paper published in an academic journal is found to be so flawed as to merit being removed from scientific literature.
- A journal's retraction index is the the number of retractions in a given time period multiplied by 1,000 and divided by the total number of published articles.
- Paper mills are enterprises that churn out fake or low-quality journal papers and sell them to scientists. Thousands of papers published in academic journals worldwide have been linked to Russian, Iranian, and Chinese paper mills.

HUBBALLI-DHARWAD BRTS COMPANY LTD., HUBBALLI.

CIN: U60200KA2012SGC063887
Phone No: 0836–2222007/2222008, e-mail :hdbrtsfin@gmail.com

No: HDBRTS/FIN/FD/2024-25/324 Date: 24-09-2024

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
Seeking Rate of Interest for Fixed Deposits (Nationalised Banks & RRBs only)

Hubballi-Dharwad BRTS Company Ltd., Hubballi intends to park / retain the Fixed Deposits. The eligibility criteria and other necessary details are available in the e-Portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. The interested Banks (Nationalised Banks and Regional Rural Banks only) meeting eligibility criteria may participate in the e-bidding process from **25-09-2024** and the last date to submit the bid is **04-10-2024 at 17.00 Hours**.

DIPR/Dharwad/425/Adverto/2024-25

Sd/- Managing Director
Hubballi-Dharwad BRTS Company Ltd., Hubballi.

RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, KARNATAKA

4th 'T' Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru – 560 041.
Ph No.080-26961928 Fax-080-26961929

No:RGU/PROC/Catering/35/2024-25 Date: 23.09.2024

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION (RFP)

The Registrar Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences invites tender for Providing Catering Services for various meetings and Programme of RGUHS. More details on the service are provided in the attached Terms of Reference. **Tender NO: RGUHSK/2024-25/SE0015**

Tender document available for downloaded	24/09/2024 12:57 Hrs
Tender Pre Bid meeting	07/10/2024 11:30 Hrs
Last date for receipt of Tender	25/10/2024 17:30 Hrs
Opening of Technical Bid	28/10/2024 11:30 Hrs
Place of Opening of Tender	Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bengaluru

More details can be fetched from website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

DIPR/SI/2161/2024-25

Sd/-
REGISTRAR

(Public Works Department) KARNATAKA STATE HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Project Implementation Unit, Karnataka State Highways Improvement Project, K R Circle, Bengaluru – 560 001
Phone: 080-22126758/59/60/61 E-mail: piukship@gmail.com

No: PIU:KSHIP-III/RSC/NCB Date: 24.09.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION No: 01/2024-25
(NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The Project Director, Project Implementation Unit, Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project, Bengaluru invites bids for below mentioned package works under KSHIP–III (ADB Loan No.3619 IND) in Single Stage-Two Cover System. The Tenderers may submit tenders for the work given in the table through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal of the Government of Karnataka **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).**

1	Name of the Work	1 **Package No. BSI 1:** Road Safety Improvement works for 10 No's blackspots in North and North east zone PWD roads in Karnataka. 2 **Package No. BSI 2:** Road Safety Improvement works for 10 No's blackspots in South and Central zone PWD roads in Karnataka.
2	Amount put to Tender (Civil Cost in Crores exl. GST)	1 Package No BSI 1 - Rs. 25.73 Cr. 2 Package No BSI 2 - Rs. 50.66 Cr.
3	Construction Period	6 months
4	Bid document available for downloading in E-procurement portal	**30-09-2024 Time: 11:00 Hours onwards**
5	Last date for downloading of bid document from E-procurement portal	**28-10-2024 upto Time: 15:00 Hours**
6	Time and date of Pre-bid meeting	**14-10-2024 Time: 11:30 Hours (O/o Project Director, KSHIP, Bangalore)**
7	Last date for submission of Bids online	**28-10-2024 Time: 16:30 Hours**
8	Time and date of opening of bids online	**30-10-2024 Time: 15:00 Hours**

Any information about the works can be obtained from the O/o The Project Director, Project Implementation Unit, Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project, Bengaluru during office hours on all working days and also through **support@eprochelpdesk.com** KPP Portal helpdesk telephone nos are +91-8046010000/ +91-8068948777.

DIPR/CP/SPAN/2164/2024-25

Sd/- Project Director
PIU, KSHIP, Bengaluru.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Kodagu District, Madikeri District Urban Development Cell, Kodagu District

Phone No. : 08272-295551, Email : dudc_kdg@yahoo.co.in, ka.kodagu.dudc@gmail.com
Website : www.kodagududc.mrc.gov.in

No. : DUDC:Legacy Waste:78:2023-24 Date : 24-09-2024

RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Project Director District Urban Development Cell, Kodagu District, Karnataka, invites tenders from the eligible tendereres for processing and disposing of municipal solid wastes dumped at landfill areas of CMC Madikeri, TMC Kushalnagar and TMC Virajpet of Kodagu District, Karnataka State as per KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 amended from time to time. Interested eligible bidders may download the tender documents from Karnataka Public Procurement Portal website ie **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** using work indent No. **DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT 5182. (Call-3)** Details are as under :-

Brief Description of Work	Estimate Amount (Including GST)	EMD (In Lakhs)	Period of Completion
Processing and disposal of legacy waste dumped at landfill areas of CMC Madikeri, TMC Kushalnagar and TMC Virajpet of Kodagu District, Karnataka State as per pollution control board guidelines	1239.35 lakhs	15.00 Lakhs	8.57 Months

Date and time for submission of tender and other information please visit website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact this office on office time. Incase of any changes in the tender schedule, will be intimated through KPP Portal only.

Sd/- Project Director
District Urban Development Cell
Kodagu District, Madikeri, Karnataka

Encore Asset Reconstruction Company Private Limited (Encore ARC)

acting in its capacity as the Trustee of EARC - BANK - 014 - Trust
Encore ARC Corporate Office Address: 5th Floor, Plot No. 137, Sector 44, Gurugram 122002, Haryana

Public Notice for e-Auction

e-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("SARFAESI Act") read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ("Rules").

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to Vishweshwar Sahakari Bank Ltd to secure dues in the loan account since assigned to Encore ARC (Secured Creditor) acting in its capacity as the Trustee of EARC-BANK-014-TRUST, the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Vishweshwar Sahakari Bank , will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on 06.11.2024 at 11:00 a.m., for recovery of outstanding dues of Rs. 1,71,68,662/- (Rupees One Crore Seventy One Lakhs Sixty Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty Two Only) as on 09.07.2024 together with further interest from 10.07.2024 at contractual rate till recovery of outstanding amount and other costs, charges etc. due to the Encore ARC (Secured creditor), from Borrowers viz **M/s Padmavati Textiles through Sole Proprietor Shri. Pramod Mahaveer Honshetti, Shri Narayan Gopal Kharade, Mr Shrinivas Krishna Lankha, Mr Mahavir Kuber Honashetti and Mr Ashok Kuber Honashetti**

The description of the mortgaged immovable property, the details of Reserve Price for the Secured Asset, the Earnest Money Deposit & Minimum Increment Amount in Bidding Process are as under:

Item Sr No.	Name of Account	Description of Property	Reserve Price (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (In Rs.)	Increment in Bidding Process (In Rs.)
1	M/s Padmavati Textiles & others	1)All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Plot No.137 comprised in R.S.No. 260 A/1 Corresponding to VPC. No. 1254 ad measuring 2762 sq.ft along with construction upon it situated within the limits of Nipani Co-Op. Industrial Estate A/P Jatrat, Tal Chikodi, Dist . Belgaon. & 2)Plot No.138 comprised in R.S.No. 260 A/1 Corresponding to VPC. No. 1080 ad measuring 2762 sq.ft, along with construction upon it situated within the limits of Nipani Co-Op. Industrial Estate A/P Jatrat, Tal Chikodi, Dist . Belgaon. Plot No.137 Bounded as follows: To East : Plot No.93, To West : Road , To South : Plot No.136, To North : Plot No.138 Plot No.138 Bounded as follows : To East : Plot No.92, To West : Road, To South : Plot No.137, To North : Plot No.139	50,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty Lakhs Only)	5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs Only)	50,000.00 (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)

Date of Inspection of Secured Assets	14/10/2024 between 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Last Date of Submission of online Bid	Before 3.00 PM on 05/11/2024
Date & time of e-Auction	06/11/2024 at 11.00 AM to 1:00 PM with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each as per Terms & Conditions mentioned below. Auction Website: https://bankeauctions.com

In case the e-Auction date is declared public holiday then the date will be automatically extended to the very next working day.

Since Encore ARC is acting in its capacity as Trustee of EARC-BANK – 014 -Trust only, any reference of its name in this Public Notice should be construed accordingly.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Encore ARC's website i.e. **https://www.encorearc.com and https://bankeauctions.com**

Interested bidders may contact Authorised officer of Encore ARC Mr. K.Nagendran Mobile No. 91762 91717, Mr.B M Nagaraju on mob no.8384074164 and Mr. Sabari Sundar on mobile no. 7904918124 for any further information / query.

K.Nagendran
Authorised Officer
Encore Asset Reconstruction Company Private Limited

Date: 24.09.2024
Place: Nipani

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner **Sri. MOMAMEED MUMTAZUDDIN**, S/o. Sri. Mohammed Sharfuddin. The Owner represent that he is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property and apart from him there are no other person/s, having any right, title or claim over the Schedule Property and the Schedule Property is not mortgaged, or encumbered in any manner. The Owner represent that he has not entered into any MoU, Agreement of Sale or any sort of arrangement with any other person/s, with respect to the Schedule Property or part thereof. If any person/s having objection/s or claims may with documentary evidence lodge their objection/claims within **7 (Seven) days** from the date of this notice with the undersigned, failing which, my client shall proceed with the purchase of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of Immoveable property bearing Site No.88, Katha No. 378/77/1/142/88, formed in land bearing survey No.77/1, situated at Kothanur village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore measuring East to West: 40 Feet and North to South: 63+60/2 Feet, in all measuring 2460 Sq. Feet together with building constructed thereon and bounded on the:

East by : Site No.87,
West by : Site No.89
North by : Road
South by : Private Property

H.M. HARSHA
UniLegal - Advocates and Attorneys
No.511, Ground Floor, 9th Cross, 6th Main, Sadashivanagar, Bangalore - 560 080.
Mob :98443-90581
e-mail: harsha@unilegal.in ,
Date: 24-09-2024

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Project South, South Zone office complex, 9th Main, 9th Cross, Jayanagara 2nd Block, Bengaluru - 560 011.

No: EEP(S)/KPPP/e-Portal/08/2024-25 Date:24.09.2024

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) (Two Cover System)

(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)

The Executive Engineer, Project South, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible tenderers for the following services in the table below.

Sl No.	Name of the work
1.	Providing Paramedical Staffs to Referral Hospitals and Maternity Homes of South Clinical wing of BBMP. **Approx. Amount put to Tender: ₹92,19,432/- EMD: ₹1,84,400/-**

Calendar of Events : (1) Tenders must be submitted online through kpp portal on or before 14.10.2024 at 4:00 pm (2) Pre-Bid meeting will be held on 30.09.2024 at 3:00 pm. (3) Last Date & Time for Receipt of Tenders is 14.10.2024 upto 4:00 pm. (4) Opening of Technical Bid 16.10.2024 at 4:30 pm. (5) Financial Bid opening date 18.10.2024 at 4:30 pm or After Technical bid Approval.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Project South

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE VISIT
www.thehinduads.com
CALL: Bengaluru: 98455 29981 ▪ 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 ▪ 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 ▪ 2335700

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I SUPRABHA D/o Gouri Laxmi Narayana Patro R/O 11 Souparnika Layout Mogarahalli Srirangapattana Belagola Mandya Karnataka–571606 Changed My Name to Suprabha Gouri.

I, Udyavara Rajashekara Bhadhya R/o # 4/b, Sri Lakshmi Narayana Nivasa, 11th Cross, Muthyalamma Layout, Kuvempunagar, B'lore 560014 have changed my minor daughter's name from Raksha R Bhadhya to Hraksha Bhaadhya for all purposes.

I, MOHAN Kumar.A, R/o No.265, Kushi Nilaya, 6th Main, 2nd Block, R.T.Nagar, Bluru-32 have changed my Minor Daughters name from Kushi Mohan Gowda to Khushi Mohan Gowda vide affidavit dt 24.09.24 sworn before Notary S.Vijayakumar, Bluru

I, SHWETHA Mohan Gowda W/o Mohan Kumar.A, R/o No.265, Kushi Nilaya, 6th Main, 2nd Block, R.T.Nagar, Bluru-32 have changed my name from Shwetha Mallesh to Shwetha Mohan Gowda vide affidavit dated 24.09.24 sworn before Notary S.Vijayakumar, Bluru

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SUDHEER NAGAPPA KURAKURE, S/o. Nagappa Kallappa Kurakure, aged about 56 years, Plat No.624, B3 Tower, Ganga Block, National Games Village, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560 047, I declare that my son's birth certificate and School records father name and mother name mentioned as **SUDHEER N KURAKURE** and **PADMINI S KURAKURE** I declare that father and mother Correct name is **SUDHEER NAGAPPA KURAKURE** and **PADMINI SUDHEER KURAKURE** which is same as in Aadhar Card, vide affidavit dated 24/9/2024 sworn before Metropolitan Magistrate Traffic - Court -V Nrupathunga Road Bangalore.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, S.MANOJ Kumar, S/o Sebastian Gnanaprakash Raj, R/at No.487/2, Nagana Palya Nain Road, Maruthi Sevanagar, Bangalore North-560033, have changed my name from S.Manoj Kumar to Manoj Kumar Sebastian vide affidavit dated 23/09/2024 sworn before Notary K.S. Giridhar, Bengaluru.

I, UMA Thirtha Kumar, R/a No.47, 6th Cross, Narayanappa Block, Bengaluru-560046 have changed my name to Uma vide affidavit dt: 24.09.2024 sworn before Notary C.V.Earappa, B'lore

BUSINESS OFFERS

MONTHLY REVENUE is assured by buying Data Particle. WA:7019246661

INVESTORS REQUIRED
M SAND & STONE CRUSHER REQUIRED INVESTORS
(0) 93633 38477

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

NOTICE IS hereby given that the share certification(s) 4078,70285& 156182 for 1920 ordinary shares bearing distinctive no(s) 8877671–8878310, 2507863456–2507863775 & 3835017853 – 3835018812 of ITC Limited standing in the name of Mr ANIL KUMAR BODKAY have been reported lost and that an application for issue of duplicate certificates in resect thereof has been made to the company's investor service centre, ITC Limited, 37, J L Nehru road Kolkata – 700071 to whom objection if any against issuance of such duplicate share certificate(s) should be made within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The public are cautioned against dealing in any manner with these shares.

REAL ESTATE

Resort for Sale Madurai 7.5 Acre 31Cr Contact: 7338774409

SALE - Senior Citizen 2 Bedroom New Flat 100% Furnished Immediate Occupation at Manasum Godrej Flat New Airport Road: 9845026300

SITUATION VACANT

MEDICAL

JOSEPH HOSPITALS, Premier OBS & GYN Hospital based in ChennaiRequires Duty OB. & GYN– Post Graduate/ Diploma Doctors – Salary Rs. 2 Lakhs PM based on experience. Apply to Director, Joseph Hospitals 10A Guruswamy Road, Chetpet, Chennai –31. or askus@josephhospitals.com

SITUATIONS REQUIRED

A well experienced person having more than 15 years placed in UAE connected with Import, Export, Overseas Trading, Marketing with strong Spoken & Writing English, adequate qualification looking for suitable position
75502 72351
richmondindia9@gmail.com

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder
Call our toll-free number 1800 102 1878
Or write to us at customercare@thehindu.co.in
Scan the QR code to register your feedback
THE HINDU thehindubusinessline. FRONTLINE SPORTSTAR Young World THE HINDU

BANGALORE URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH

Office of the Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, First Floor, Zilla Panchayath Building, S. Kariyappa Road, Banashankari, Bengaluru-560070.

No: EE/PRED/BNG(U)/TND/AE-01/22/2024-25 Date: 23.09.2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION No: 22/2024-25
(Two Cover System) (Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal)

Tenders are invited through KPPP Portal by the Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D, Bangalore Urban, For DSERT Grant Works. The work details can be obtained from the KPPP Website. The Tender Documents can be obtained and submitted on or before: **01-10-2024 upto 4.00 PM.** Further details can be obtained from web site at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact this office during office working hours.

DIPR/CP/2152/SPAN/2024-25

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Panchayat Raj Engineering Division,
Bangalore Urban Dist. Bangalore

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED

Office of the Deputy General Manager-3 (BSWML), 1st Floor, UNI Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560 052.

No.: DGM-3/(BSWML)/TEND-2/Corr-01/24-25 Date: 24.09.2024

CORRIGENDUM- 1

Sub: Extension of Calendar of Events for Tender Notification.
Ref: This office Tender Notification No: DGM-3/BSWML/TEND/02/24-25, Dated: 31.08.2024

As per the above subject and reference, the calendar of events for the above tender notification is extended due to Administrative and Technical reasons.

Time schedule /calendar of events:

Sl. No.		As per tender notification	Extended dates please read as
1	Last date and time for uploading qualification documents	On 26.09.2024 upto 16:00 hrs.	On 14.10.2024 upto 16:00 hrs.
2	Opening of tender date and time	On 27.09.2024 upto 16:30 hrs.	On 15.10.2024 upto 16:30 hrs.

For Further details visit GOK kpp portal Website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/LC/2165/2024-25

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-3, BSWML

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Division, R.R. Nagara Zone, No.301, 2nd Floor, BEML Complex, 3rd Stage, BEML Layout, Rajarajeshwarinagara, Bengaluru - 560098.

No: EE(P)/RRNZ/Tend/02/2024-25 Date: 24-09-2024

TENDER POSTPONEMENT NOTICE-1

Ref.: 1) This Office Tender Notification No: BBMP/EE/Proj/RRN/TEN/02/2024-25, Dated: 06-09-2024.

With reference to the above subject, tender invited vide above referred tender notice by this office is **Postponed Due to Technical Reasons.** Dates pertaining to tender as amended is as follows. Other things remain unchanged.

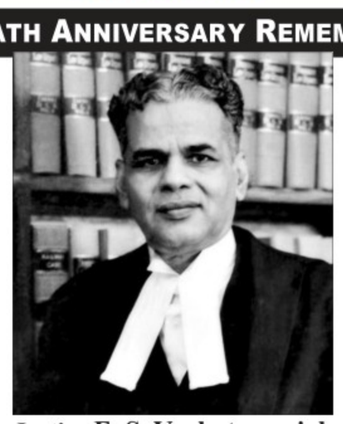
Revised Date & Time Schedule: 1) Tender documents can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **from 25-09-2024 onwards. 2)** Last Date and Time for Tender Queries: **27-09-2024 upto 4.00 PM. 3)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **30-09-2024 at 3.00 PM. at the Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Division, RR Nagara Zone. 4)** Last Date for Submission of Tender Document: **07-10-2024 upto 4.00 PM. 5)** Date of Opening of Technical Bid: **08-10-2024 at 4.30 PM. 6)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **Will be intimated to the Technically Qualified Bidders.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Project),
Rajarajeshwari Nagar Zone, BBMP.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

REMEMBRANCE

27th DEATH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE



Justice E. S. Venkataramiah
(18.12.1924 to 25.09.1997)
Former Chief Justice of India

"Let men trained in ethics or morality, insult or praise;
let wealth accumulate or vanish as she likes;
let death come today itself or
at the end of a millennium,
men with discretion will not deflect from the path of rectitude"
- Verse 84 from Niti Shatakam by Bhartrhari

Fondly Remembered by:
Justice B. V. Nagarathna, Sri. B. N. Gopala Krishna
Nayanatara B. G. and Prerana B. G.

DEATH

VENGARAI V.RADHAKRISHNA BHAGAVATHAR (72) Reached Sri Lakshmi Narasimhan Thiruvadi 23.09.2024. Brothers V.V.V.Ramanan, V.V. Kalyanaraman (9444025482) V.V. Gopalakrishnan, Son: V.R.Sundar: 9042247360. Daughter: V R Subhasree 9884098803 & Family.

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981,
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575,
from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Online booking: www.thehinduads.com
DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ಕುವೆಂಪು ಭಾಷಾ ಭಾರತಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ

ಕೂಡಾಗ್ರಾಮ, ಜ್ಞಾನಭಾರತಿ, ಮಲ್ಲತ್ತಹಳ್ಳಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560 056.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 080–23183311/12 ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: kbbp-bengaluru@ka.gov.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕುಭಾಪ್ರಾ/58/ಪ್ರಾ.ಪು.ಟೆಂಡರ್/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25.09.2024

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಕುವೆಂಪು ಭಾಷಾ ಭಾರತಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವತಿಯಿಂದ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ವಿವಿಧ 75 ಪುಸ್ತಕಗಳನ್ನು ಮುದ್ರಿಸುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ ಆಫ್‌ಸೆಟ್ ಮುದ್ರಣ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯವುಳ್ಳ ಅರ್ಹ ಮುದ್ರಣಾಲಯಗಳಿಂದ ನಿಗದಿತ ನಮೂನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್) ಮೂಲಕ ಎರಡು (2) ಬಿಡ್ ವಿಧಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ: **ರೂ.90,00,000.00** (ರೂಪಾಯಿ ತೊಂಭತ್ತು ಲಕ್ಷ ಮಾತ್ರ) ಗಳು. ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ: **ರೂ.2,25,000.00** ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಲಾದ ನಮೂನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಭರ್ತಿಮಾಡಿ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಇತರೆ ಷರತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ಪಡೆದು ದಿನಾಂಕ: **25.10.2024** ರೊಳಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಾಹಿತಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080–23183311/12

DIPR/CP/BCPL/2154/2024-25

ಸಹಿ/– ರಿಜಿಸ್ಟ್ರಾರ್

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, GRBCC Divn.4, Chikodi.
Ph :08338 - 272485 Email :ee_knnlgrbc4ckd@rediffmail.com

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through kpp portal only)

Tender Notification No: KNNL/GRBCC -4/Tender/2024-25/08 Date: 20-09-2024

Tender is invited by the undersigned on behalf of Managing Director,KNNL, Bangalore for the work mentioned below. The blank tender document can be downloaded from kppp portal of Government of Karnataka. (https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

Indent No:Two Cover System:Indent No: 1621,Approximate amount put to tender:149.91 lakhs, EMD Amount: 2,25,000/- Last date & Time for tender quarries/Clarifications:27-09-2024, Up to 17.00 hrs. Pre-bid meeting in the office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL GRBCC Divn No.4 CHIKODI:01-10-2024, at 11.30 hrs. The last date & Time for receipt of tenders:04-10-2024 Up to 16.00 hrs. Date of Opening of tenders (Two Cover System):Technical Bid: 05-10-2024 at 16.30 hrs. Financial bid: 07-10-2024 at 16.30 hrs.

Further information can be had from under signed from the following Nos 08338-272485 & from e-portal (https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in) during office hours.

The competent authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-856/KSMCA/2024-25

Sd/- (S.S Karagar), Executive Engineer,
KNNL, GRBCC Division No.4, Chikodi

SRI JAYADEVA INSTITUTE OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES & RESEARCH

(Govt. of Karnataka - Reg. Autonomous Institute)
Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru-560 069.
Ph.: +91-80-22977666/276/433/333/282 TELE FAX:080-26534625/477
e-mail: director.sjicr@gmail.com / pstodirectorsjicr@gmail.com

REF:SJICR/ACCTS/FD/2024-25 Date:24.09.2024

e- AUCTION

Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru invites tender in single bid system from eligible tenderers through e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka for investment of surplus funds as mentioned below:

Sl. No.	Auction Notice No. & Date	Particulars
1	SJICR/2024-25/ AUCTION-012 Dt.24.09.2024	e-Auction for Investment of surplus funds of SJICR for One Year.

The tenderers can download the documents from **https:/kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from **24.09.2024** and the last date and time to confirm participation of interest in e-Auction is on **27.09.2024 upto 4.00 PM**

1. Date of Technical Bid Opening : **30.09.2024 at 4.00 PM**
2. EMD : **Rs.5,000/-**
3. Live Bidding (e-Auction): commences at **10:00 AM** and concludes at **03:00 PM on 03.10.2024.**
4. For further details, please visit our website: **www.jayadevacardiology.com**
5. The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept/reject/cancel the tender partially or fully without assigning any reason at any stage of processing.

Sd/-
Financial Advisor.

PULSE-CHECK

How BMI is becoming an inadequate measure for health

BMI does not help a doctor understand the composition of the weight — how much of it is fat, and where the fat is distributed. Studies are now showing that BRI may be better at predicting health risks than BMI

Zubeda Hamid

Practically everyone who has gone to a doctor for a check-up has had their BMI or Body Mass Index measured. BMI calculators abound online and it has become a modern go-to quick check for one's health – financial services company Zerodha even announced, in 2022, an extra bonus for employees with a BMI of less than 25.

But how accurate is BMI in deciding how healthy you are now, or how healthy you will remain in the future? Increasingly, experts have arrived at the realisation that it is an imperfect calculation that has several limitations.

Therefore, the new buzz word is BRI or the Body Roundness Index. Devised by U.S. mathematician Diana Thomas, and first published in a 2013 paper, this index measures how round you are. "BMI is grounded by the assumption that bodies are like cylinders. But when I looked at myself in the mirror, I thought – 'I'm more of an egg than a cylinder.' And this is what led to devising the BRI" she says.

The mathematical formula for BRI is associated with body fat levels, and takes into account height and waist circumference. The scores usually range from 1 to 15, with those having very high scores or very low scores (of over 6.9 or under 3.41) considered at the most risk for illnesses.

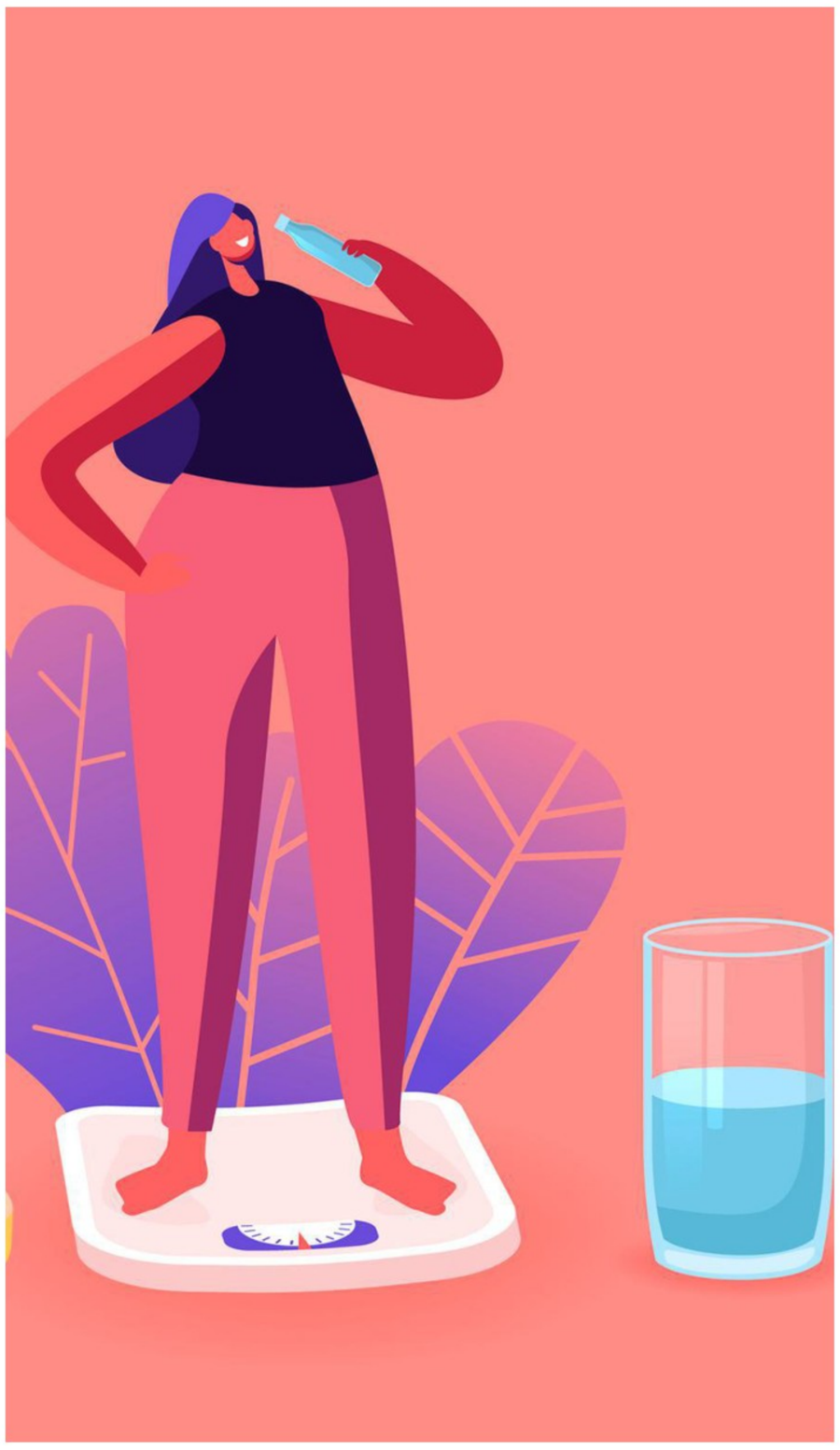
How is BRI different from BMI?

BMI is your weight in kilograms divided by your height in metres squared. A BMI of 18 to 24.9 is considered normal; 25 to 29.9 is termed overweight and 30 and above is classified as obese.

The problem, says Jaichitra Suresh, chief medical officer, SIMS Hospital, Chennai, is that BMI does not help a doctor understand the composition of the weight: how much of it is fat, muscles or water for instance, and where the fat is distributed in the body. "Athletic people and those who do weight training may have high BMIs, as muscles are denser than fat, but will still be healthy. It cannot be assumed that a high BMI always means high fat," she points out.

BMI also has limitations with different ethnic groups – it was created using data from 19th century Europeans. For instance, Dr. Jaichitra says, an Indian and a Caucasian may have the exact same BMI, but in an Indian the fat percentage may be higher than that of the Caucasian.

How is BRI different? The BRI score takes the waist circumference into account, and calculates percent body fat: the calculator shows you an egg-like outline, with a green region, which is considered healthy. Scores outside this region are considered to be at risk. "The more round you are, the higher percent body fat you have, the higher your visceral adipose and therefore your risk of diabetes, cadiovascular problems etc. Metabolic illnesses can manifest without the body looking like it is obese. But even at the lower end, having a small body size for height, weight and gender, is a risk. The green zone shows you the sweet spot," says Dr. Thomas, who is a full professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at the United States Military Academy, West Point.



GETTY IMAGES

Where does the fat lie?

When BMI was first proposed to be used as an indicator for mortality risk, experts pointed out that its scores may not be applicable for the Asian population – and at this stage, in 2002, it was suggested that 23 be considered an action point for Asian populations, and not 25.

"But this," says Anura Kurpad, professor of physiology at St. John's Medical College who was part of the WHO expert consultation on BMI in Asian populations, which met in Singapore in 2002, "did not address the problem. It is not the amount of fat that is the issue but where the fat is – as fat in the abdomen, particularly when it accumulates around the internal organs, is what leads to metabolic syndrome and a host of medical issues. BMI can be misleading. You could be skinny but with a paunch and this would put you at risk of non-communicable diseases," he says.

High levels of visceral fat (belly fat stored deep within the abdomen, around the internal organs) can contribute to developing type 2 diabetes, hypertension, cardiac diseases and other health conditions. Indians are genetically predisposed to putting on weight around the abdomen making them more susceptible to insulin resistance, and therefore, diabetes. The guidelines released this year by the National Institute of Nutrition reflect this: they state that BMIs ranging from 23 to 27.5 are to be considered overweight for Asians, since they tend to have a higher percentage of body fat compared to some other populations.

Alternatives were proposed then, says Dr. Kurpad, who is also senior advisor, Tata Trusts, including waist-height ratios. This is a simple index: if your waist circumference is less than half of your height, you are in good shape, but if it is more, then that indicates you are beginning to get spherical.

The problem of obesity is rising in India: according to the National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5), the number of overweight/obese Indian men is now 22.9%, while the figure for women is 24%.

But Dr. Kurpad points to another issue as well: "BMI gives the impression that it is only physically overweight or obese people who are at risk of chronic diseases. But this is not true – thin people are also at risk, as are children. In fact a national nutrition survey in children aged 5 to 19 found that one in two children studied had higher than normal blood glucose levels, high BP and higher than normal cholesterol," he says.

Even if adults or children are of normal weight, explains A.J. Hemamalini, professor and head of the department of clinical nutrition at the Sri Ramachandra Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, Chennai, often, their fat mass is high and their muscle mass is low, and this is why BMI is not always an accurate indicator. "We look at different components including biochemical profile, waist circumference, waist to height ratio and correlate this with dietary intake and physical activity, to arrive at an idea of their nutritional status," she says.

More reliable alternative

Many studies have now shown that BRI may be better at predicting health risks than BMI.

In a paper published in *Diabetology International* in July 2021, researchers from JIPMER Puducherry noted that BMI's clinical utility is challenged by its "inability to discriminate between fat and lean mass and failure to report the fat distribution." The paper, 'Cut-off values and clinical efficacy of body roundness index and other novel anthropometric indices in identifying metabolic syndrome and its components among Southern-Indian adults,' by Chiranjeevi Kumar Endukuru et al, which studied 202 individuals, found that BRI, among other novel measures, had a "significantly higher predictive capacity to identify MetS (metabolic syndrome). Among traditional and novel anthropometric indices, the paper said, BMI and ABSI (a-body shape index) "exhibited the weakest predictive power to identify MetS in both genders."

A recent cohort study of over 32,000 U.S. adults, 'Body Roundness Index and All-Cause Mortality Among US Adults' published in *JAMA Network Open*, found that the "association between BRI and all-cause mortality followed a U-shape, with both lowest and highest BRI groups experiencing significantly increased risk of all-cause mortality," indicating that "BRI may be promising as a newer anthropometric measure associated with all-cause mortality."

But how reliable is BRI? It may be subject to human error. Writing for *The Conversation* last year, Alice Bullas, Senior Research Fellow, Sports Engineering Research Group, Sheffield Hallam University, said one study had found that eight out of 10 trained health professionals demonstrated such high levels of human error when manually measuring the abdomen that they failed to notice an increase of 3 cm the second time they took the measurement. "This margin of error will probably be even higher in people taking their own measurements at home," she wrote, adding that as a new metric, BRI also does not yet have the kind of extensive data backing up its use that exists for BMI.

While BMI, BRI and other indices to measure health risks may continue to be debated for some time to come, it's a good idea, says Dr Kurpad, for everybody to use the simple waist to height calculation to keep track of their health.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

The American sitcom *Friends*, which went on to become a major cultural masterpiece, debuted on September 22, 1994. Here is a quiz on the show that turned 40 recently

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1
When the show was first being developed, what were the initial titles, after which it was changed to *Friends*?

QUESTION 2
Which of the six characters on the show had a pet monkey in the first couple of seasons? What was the name of the monkey?

QUESTION 3
Courteney Cox played the role of Monica Geller on the show. Initially, the makers wanted her to take the role of which character?

QUESTION 4
What is the name of the show in which Joey portrays the role of Dr. Drake Ramoray?

QUESTION 5
The series was nominated for 62 Primetime Emmy Awards, winning six. Who were the only two main cast members who won an Emmy? Who is the only actor who was not nominated?

QUESTION 6
The show is quoted in this tennis player's autobiography. The said player was dating one of the guest actors, Brooke Shields who appears in the episode 'The One After The Super Bowl - Part 1'. Name the tennis player and his book.

Visual question:
Identify this actor, who had a guest role on *Friends*, playing the love interest of Phoebe Buffay. He was married to one of the show's main actors. Who was it?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This player registered the first medal winning performance for India in the Chess Olympiad. **Ans: Mohammad Rafiq Khan**
2. Name the Grandmaster who holds the record for representing India in the most number of games in the open section of the Chess Olympiad. **Ans: K. Sasikiran**
3. Name the only player to have beaten D. Gukesh in the Olympiads. **Ans: Nodirbek Abdusattarov of Uzbekistan**
4. This Indian player registered the second highest ELO rating in the Budapest Olympiad. **Ans: Arjun Erigaisi**
5. The 2014 Indian team won bronze in the open section. This Indian GM had the best performance rating from this team. **Ans: S.P. Sethuraman**
Visual: Identify these three chess players. **Ans: The Khadilkar sisters — Rohini, Vasanthi, Jayashree**
Early Birds: Nobody got all the answers correct

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian Upendran

"What happened to your leg?"

"Remember that bench in our garage?"

"Who can forget that old thing! Why, it must be as old as your grandfather."

"Older, actually. That bench belonged to his father."

"Then it's an antique. You can make a lot of money if you sell it."

"That's not possible now. You see, I fell on the bench this morning and it broke into pieces."

"Aha! So you are bankrupt, are you?"

"Bankrupt? Nobody becomes bankrupt because of a broken bench."

"But they do."

"What's got into you? How can we possibly become bankrupt because of a broken bench?"

"Because the word bankrupt literally means 'a broken bench'."

"What! 'Bankrupt' means 'broken bench'? You must be joking."

"No, I'm not. You see, the word 'bank' is derived from the old Italian 'banca' meaning 'bench'."

"But what's the connection between a bank and a bench? I don't see any."

"You don't see any connection, because when you think of a bank these days, you immediately think of a crowded building with a lot of counters. But when banking first started, business wasn't conducted in a building."

"Then where? Out in the open?"

"Exactly. Business was conducted on a 'banca', that is, a bench. The earliest moneychangers used to sit on a bench and all transactions used to take place on the bench. So the 'banca', from which we get the modern 'bank', became the place where monetary transactions took place."

"I see. And how did these moneychangers become bankrupt?"

"That's simple. When the bench broke, they became bankrupt."

"How did the bench break?"

"Usually, it was the money changer's enemies who broke it and sometimes it was his clients who did the breaking."

"Why did the clients break the bench?"

"Maybe they didn't like the service he was giving them. Or maybe they found out that he was cheating them."

"Well, if he was cheating his own clients then the bench deserved to be broken alright."

"You're right. And once the bench was broken, the moneychangers became bankrupt. Because you see, without the bench he couldn't transact any business. 'Rupta' is the Latin word for 'broken'. And as I said earlier, 'bankrupt' means 'broken bench'."

"So without a bench to sit on, the bankers couldn't carry on any business."

"That's right. But there were some people who used to stand on a bench and conduct business."

"Stand on a bench and conduct business! Who were they?"

"Mountebanks. Know who a mountebank is?"

"Isn't he a fraud?"

"That's right. A mountebank is a person who goes around deceiving people by claiming he can do wonderful things. He is a swindler. The word is rarely used these days."

Published in The Hindu on June 22, 1993.

Word of the day

Patently: unmistakably

Synonyms: obviously, plainly, apparently, manifestly, evidently

Usage: *His claims were patently false.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/patentlypro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈpeɪtəntli/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Man held for setting fire to parked bikes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Peenya police on Tuesday arrested a 25-year-old man on the charge of setting on fire three bikes which were parked outside a paying guest facility recently. The accused has been identified as Pulkith, a resident of Mahalakshmi Layout.

According to the police, the accused wanted to buy a bike but owing to financial problems he could not.

Meanwhile, he noticed that a student living in the paying guest facility, identified as Deepanshu Agarwal, had purchased a high-end bike a few months ago.

The accused decided to burn it, said the police. He walked to the paying guest facility, stole petrol, and set the bike on fire, and fled. A few residents noticed the bike on fire and alerted Deepanshu. By then, the bike along with two others on either side were gutted.

THE HINDU IN SCHOOL
A Newspaper exclusively curated for School Students
PRESENTS SCHOOL BUZZ

PRATIBHA PURASKARA

Auden School hosted the 'Pratibha Puraskara' to honour top-performing students with awards, certificates, and mementos. Bhavana Ramanna, a renowned actress in the Kannada film industry, graced the event as chief guest. Her inspiring speech motivated students to strive for excellence in both academic and personal pursuits.

CBSE SOUTH ZONAL LEVEL II YOGA COMPETITION

SJR Public School, HBR Layout, Bangalore, proudly hosted the CBSE South Zonal Level II Yoga Competition, attracting over 1500 participants from 140 schools across Maharashtra, Kerala, and Karnataka. The event was chaired by Chief Guest Shri Ramesh (RO CBSE Bangalore) alongside Guest of Honour Shri Prabhudev Kalmath (Hon. Secretary, SJRES), Shri Veerabhadraiah (Treasurer, SJRES), and CBSE Observers Mr Satyaki Chakraborty and Mr Sandeep Kumar Jha. Principal Mrs Jyothi Shashidhar delivered the welcome address, emphasising yoga's holistic benefits. Competitors excelled in Artistic, Rhythmic, and traditional categories. SJR Public School students earned accolades, and the event concluded with an award ceremony, promoting a healthy lifestyle.

EDUTAINMENT AT ITS BEST FOR YOUNG READERS

Young World Club is a fun-filled online edutainment portal, from The Hindu, packed with rich multimedia content to make learning fun. It offers children new ways to learn through its interactive sections on Think, Read, Do, Travel, Play, and Change. The content is presented in various interactive formats such as quizzes, crosswords, sliders, puzzles, dialog cards, flash cards, presentations, videos, games, timelines, and so on. Exclusively curated for children of ages 8-15, this web platform offers children new ways to understand diverse topics.

To subscribe, visit **ywc.thehindu.com/plans**
Use promo code **YWC@99** to get **75% discount** on annual subscription. ~~₹399~~ **₹99 only**

For Subscription related queries, please contact Raghavendra Desai:
Handphone:+91 9986196254 | Email: desai.rnb@thehindu.co.in

ADVERTISEMENT

Back to Gurukula: Revolutionising Education at

VISHWA VIDYAPEETH

through Experiential Learning.

At Vishwa Vidyapeeth, teaching and learning go beyond the formal methods under the program called **BACK TO GURUKULA**.

Learning outside the classroom with nature always has a greater impact on the journey of learning. Experiential learning tours help our students to explore the cultural diversity of India and also children gain values for their all-round development.

One of the highlights of this program was the journey to Leh-Ladakh by the Gnanavatika students of Grade 8. This tour was not just a scenic adventure but an eye-opening experience. The Gnanavatika students visited the iconic Zero RD, where they interacted with soldiers, gaining deep insights into their lives. Soldiers' commitment and dedication motivated our students to join the armed forces in the future.

In addition, students attended the Army Mela, where they witnessed the strength of the Indian Army through live demonstrations of military equipment. Their visit to the Hall of Fame further deepened their understanding of the history and sacrifice of the Indian Armed Forces, instilling a sense of patriotism and respect for the soldiers.

Vishwa Vidyapeeth aims to foster a sense of responsibility and encourage students for the meaningful contribution to the society.

कोचीन शिपयार्ड लिमिटेड
COCHIN SHIPYARD LIMITED
(भारत सरकार का उद्यम)
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)
Category I Miniratna Company
GRADE A1 OUTSTANDING

MARINE ENGINEERING TRAINING INSTITUTE (METI)
SPONSORING COMPANIES - D' AMICO & WILHELMSEN
EDUCATION LOAN FACILITY

Invites applications for
ONE YEAR PRE-SEA GME COURSE
(Approved by Director General of Shipping, Govt. of India)

Passport compulsory
Preferred age / Mark for sponsorship - 23 yrs as on 01/01/2025 and ⩾60% in B.Tech

Eligibility	: B.Tech (Mech / Naval Arch / Marine)
Last date of application	: 15th Nov 2024
Max. age	: 28 Yrs as on 01/01/2025
Entrance Exam	: 26th Nov. 2024
Venue	: CSL METI
No. of seats	: 16

Collaboration with:

Contact: Vigyana Sagar, Girinagar, Kochi - 682 020
Ph: 0484-4011596, 8129823739 E-Mail: metihod@cochinshipyard.in
For more details and application visit: https: //www.cslmeti.in

THE HINDU OPPORTUNITIES

ENGG./PRODN./TECH.

WANTED

Well established US based engineering company in Kochi is seeking **Lead Rebar Estimator for USA jobs.** Knowledge of **Bluebeam / aSa / AutoCAD etc. required.** English speaking and writing skills required & knowledge of Malayalam preferred. 4+ years experience. Full time presence needed at Kochi.

sent CV to: rebar.n.steel@gmail.com

Kochi Salem Pipeline Private Limited
(A BPCL - IOCL joint venture)
2nd Floor, Malayil Majesty Buildings, Refinery Road, Tripunithura, Ernakulam-682301, Kerala.
Tel: 0484-2784055, Email: selvam@ksppl.com

KSPPL invites applications for the following position :

Name of post	Upper age limit
Officer, Operations-Electrical	30 Years

Details of post, qualification criteria and how to apply can be seen in our website
www.ksppl.com/careers
Last date of receipt of application is **09.10.2024.**

KOCHI WATER METRO LTD
(A joint venture company of Govt. of Kerala & KMRL) 4th Floor, JLN Stadium Metro Station, Kaloor, Ernakulam-682017 | Ph: 0484-2350455

CAREER

KWML Invites application for various posts for its
Operations & Maintenance

For more details and for submission of the application log on to www.watermetro.co.in/careers. www.kochimetro.org/careers.

Last date of receipt of applications is 09th October 2024 .

KOCHI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A joint venture company of Govt. of India & Govt. of Kerala)
4th Floor, JLN Stadium Metro Station, Kaloor, Ernakulam-682017
Ph: 0484-2846700

CAREER

KMRL invites applications for
1. Asst. Manager/Manager (Safety)
2. Asst. Manager (Public Relations)

For more details and for submission of the application log on to www.kochimetro.org/careers.

Last date of receipt of applications 09th October 2024.

BHARAT ELECTRONICS LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Enterprise under the Ministry of Defence)
(CIN: L32309KA1954GOI000787)

Bharat Electronics Limited, a Navratna Company and India's premier professional Electronics Company under the Ministry of Defence, requires the following personnel on Fixed term basis for a Tenure-05 years for Kotdwara Unit. The Posts are reserved for Ex-Serviceman only.

Post	Qualification	No. of posts	POST QUALIFICATION EXPERIENCE AS ON 01.09.2024
Sr. Assistant Engineer (E-I)	Diploma in Electronics Engg. or equivalent	06	15 Years
Sr. Assistant Engineer (E-I)	Diploma in Mechanical Engg. or equivalent	05	15 Years
Sr. Assistant Engineer (E-I)	Diploma in Electrical Engg. or equivalent	01	15 Years
Sr. Assistant Facility Officer (E-I)	Degree in any discipline	01	15 Years

Last date for applying is 15.10.2024 For detailed advertisement please visit our website **www.bel-india.in**

'Har Ek Kaam Desh Ke Naam'

बी ई एम एल BEML LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
(Schedule 'A' Company under the Ministry of Defence)
Regd. Office : BEML Soudha, 23/1, 4th Main, Sampangirama Nagar, Bengaluru-560 027, INDIA

PR/CC Executives for Manufacturing Locations at KGF Complex & Palakkad Complex
Walk-in Interview (@ Bangalore & Palakkad)

BEML Limited, India's leading multi-technology company under the Ministry of Defence, has successfully spearheaded with its realm of producing world-class products over the last six decade, mainly for core sectors- Defence & Aerospace, Rail, Power, Mining & Construction through its state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities. To further build country's promising projects, namely - Vande Bharat sleeper trains, Metro rail coaches, High mobility & Armoured recovery vehicle, Special application Engines for Defence, AI-based high-end mining equipment, BEML Ltd welcomes interest from career-oriented professionals who wish to achieve great future with us and explore "New Frontiers, New Dreams" for tomorrow.

Interviews for 2 Positions	1 @ KGF Complex	@ Bangalore on 4th Oct, 2024
	1@ Palakkad Complex	@ Palakkad on 5th of Oct, 2024

Come, be a part of our people-friendly organization. Visit our website – **www.bemlindia.in** – for Venue and other details.

KP/S/16/2024 Dt.25.09.2024

Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology (RGIPT)
(An Institution of National Importance)
Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Govt. of India
Jais, Amethi- 229304, Uttar Pradesh, India

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR

Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology (RGIPT) is a domain specific Institute in Petroleum and Energy sectors. It has been set up by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Govt. of India as an Institution of National Importance at Jais, Distt.- Amethi, Uttar Pradesh, India.

RGIPT invites applications for appointment to the post of Director from candidates possessing Ph.D. in Petroleum or Chemical or Mechanical or Industrial Engineering or Geology and having proven administrative, teaching and research background with leadership qualities.

How to apply: The detailed eligibility criteria and process of application is available at Institute's website: **www.rgipt.ac.in**

Last date of application submission: 15.11.2024

NTPC Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)
Advt. No.: 14/24
RECRUITMENT OF ENGINEERING EXECUTIVE TRAINEES-2025 THROUGH GATE-2025

NTPC Limited is India's largest integrated energy company with installed capacity of **76,294 MW** and has presence in the entire value chain of the power generation business. Commensurate with our country's growth challenges, NTPC has embarked upon an ambitious plan to attain a total installed capacity of 130 GW by 2032.

To fuel its ambitious growth plan, NTPC is looking for promising, energetic and dedicated young Graduate Engineers with brilliant academic record in following engineering disciplines as **Engineering Executive Trainees-2025** through **GATE-2025:**

Electrical (EE), Mechanical (ME), Electronics (EC), Instrumentation (IN), Civil (CE), Mining (MN), Computer Science (CS)/Information Technology (IT)

All interested and eligible candidates should appear in **the Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE)-2025** examination in one of the above engineering disciplines. Candidates will be shortlisted for further selection process based on the GATE-2025 performance and the organizational requirement. GATE marks of previous years or any other examination shall not be accepted for EET-2025 recruitment. Detailed information regarding GATE-2025 is available on the website: **https://gate2025.iitr.ac.in/**

NTPC will publish another detailed advertisement to invite applications from candidates who have appeared in GATE-2025 examination. The exact date and period of online application will be intimated on the website **careers.ntpc.co.in** or careers section at **www.ntpc.co.in** in due course. Candidates are required to visit the website regularly to get updates. Any further addendum/corrigendum/updates will only be published on our website.

Leading the Power Sector

GENERAL

HINDUSTAN AERONAUTICS LIMITED
SOAR TO GREAT HEIGHTS WITH HAL

(Advt. No. ASC/HR/RECRUITMENT/ATC(GD-1)TRAINEE/2024)

Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL), a premier Aeronautical Industry in Asia undertaking Design, Production, MRO of Aircraft, Helicopters, Aero–Engine, Avionics and Systems, with 20 Production Divisions, 10 R&D Centers, spread across 7 states and 9 geographical locations in India. Airport Services Centre Division of HAL is inviting application to fill the **vacancy at Bangalore and Nasik** as given below.

Post Name	Grade	No. of Vacancies
Air Traffic Controller Trainees	I	09 (for Bangalore and Nasik)

Detailed Advertisement can be viewed and applications can be submitted **ONLINE** between **25th September 2024 (1700 hrs) to 16th October 2024 (1700 hrs)**, by visiting **Careers Section** on the HAL Website **www.hal-india.co.in.** Corrigendum / Addendum, if any, will be hosted on the HAL Website only.

HELICOPTER DIVISION
HINDUSTAN AERONAUTICS LIMITED
POST BOX NO. 1790,
VIMANAPURA POST, BANGALORE – 560017

Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL), a Navratna Central PSU & premier Aeronautical Industry of South East Asia, with 20 Production Divisions & 11 Co-Located R&D Centers spread across the Country.

Helicopter Division, Bangalore is looking forward to fill the following positions for engagement on contract basis:-

Sl. No.	Position	No. of Vacancies
1.	Flying Instructor	02
2.	Administrative Officer	01
3.	Technical Tradesman (Airframe)	01

Details regarding Age, Qualification, Experience, Mode of applying, Selection procedure etc. are available at HAL Website **www.hal-india.co.in.** The last date for receipt of application is **13.10.2024.**

JAYPEE INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(Deemed to be University)
A-10, Sector 62, Noida, Gautam Buddh Nagar – 201 309 (U.P.)
JAYPEE EDUSPHERE IGNITED MINDS INSPIRED SOULS

AICTE Approved | UGC Approved | NAAC Accredited | NIRF Ranked

JOIN OUR ESTEEMED ACADEMIC TEAM

Jaypee Institute of Information Technology (JIIT), Noida is going to create **"Mission Team"** to work under the guidance of its top leadership.

JIIT is a leading Deemed to be a University approved by UGC, AICTE, accredited by NAAC, ranked by NIRF (GOI); in high demand by all stakeholders namely Admission Seekers and Recruiters; having excellent credentials of Teaching, Training, Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship activities; having **"RAMANUJAN UNIVERSE** with Super Computer of Speed 110 Teraflops and 500 core processors", Digital Learning Center, State-of-the-art Laboratories in VLSI, Computing and Biotechnology.

- JIIT invites applications from senior academicians / researchers having experience of more than 25 years with excellent academic and research credentials in emerging and futuristic areas like Digital and Online Education, Computer Science & Engineering (CSE), Information and Digital Technology, Mathematics and Computing, Data Analytics, Business Management, Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE), to man senior position in different campuses.
- JIIT is in process of developing a CORE of Eminent Educationists to charter new sphere of new age educational pedagogy. Achievers in the field of Computer Science, Electronics, Physics, Mathematics/Computing Applications, in the age group of 62+, having desire to see future Indians better than today, may apply for a fulfilling & rewarding experience.

Interested candidates may apply **online** on email ***careeropenings@jiit.ac.in*** or can send application by post to "Head, HR JIIT, A-10, Sector-62, Noida" within 10 days of publication of this advertisement. Compensation will not a limitation for candidates having exceptional-credentials and track record.

From Page One

HC directive to social media platforms

Such videos are not only misleading the general public as small snippets of court proceedings would give partial information to the general public/viewer but the same are falsely projected by miscreants for personal and political gain, the petition stated.

This act of a few video makers is not only tarnishing the reputation of the advocates who are arguing for their clients but also hampering the trust and faith reposed by the public in the judiciary, it has been claimed in the petition.

The rule, which came into force in September 2021, prohibits all, including print and electronic media, social media platforms, including messaging apps, from recording, sharing and disseminating live-streamed proceedings or archival data without the prior written authorisation of the court.

Ganja, liquor seized in Lokayukta raids

The raids were carried out based on 132 complaints of large-scale irregularities and corruption among the excise officials. Some complainants even provided pen drives as documentary evidence, Mr. Patil added.

Several applications filed at the offices were also pending approval, with no official explanation, which indicates large-scale corruption, Mr. Patil said. "During the raid, several files were seized, and the officials were given time for an explanation about the liquor and drugs that were seized. There were no cases registered, and there was no mention of seizure or any documents about the money, ganja and liquor seized," he said.

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated September 25, take a look at how mobility start-ups could resolve the first and last-mile connectivity issue in Bengaluru by making use of the real-time transit data shared by BMTC and BMRCL. The recently launched "Enroute: A mobility-as-a-service challenge" has offered a glimpse of how this scenario could potentially change public transport in Bengaluru.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (September 25, Wednesday), the following articles are available:

- Why has Bombay HC invalidated Centre's proposed 'fact-checking' unit? **newsth.live/factcheckexp**
- Beads on the moon suggest it had volcanoes more recently than thought **newsth.live/moonvolcanoes**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

New MEMU train services to begin on September 28

Minister of State for Railways V. Somanna will flag off inaugural journey at Tumakuru station on September 27, during the launch ceremony

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In response to growing public demand, South Western Railway (SWR) is set to introduce mainline electric multiple unit (MEMU) trains on the Tumakuru-Yeshwantpur, Hosur-Yeshwantpur, and Banaswadi-Tumakuru routes

The launch ceremony will take place on September 27, with Minister of State for Railways V. Somanna flagging off the inaugural journey at Tumakuru railway station. Regular services for these MEMU trains will begin the following day, September 28.

A file photo of a MEMU train that runs between Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Bengaluru City and Ramanagara stations.

Manjunath Kanamadi, Chief Public Relations Officer of SWR, confirmed the introduction of these new services. "Expanding the local railway network to local daily commuters, the new MEMU trains are set to significantly enhance connectivity between Tumakuru, Yeshwantpur, Banasawadi, and Hosur areas," he said.

Train No. 06203 (Yeshwantpur-Hosur) will depart from Yeshwantpur at 10.45 a.m. and arrive in Hosur at 12.30 p.m. Train No. 06204 (Hosur-Yeshwantpur) will depart Hosur at 3.20 p.m. and arrive at Yeshwantpur at 5.15 p.m. Train No. 06201 (Tumakuru-Yeshwantpur) will depart Tumakuru at 8.45 a.m. and arrive at Yeshwanthpur at 10.25 a.m. Train No. 06202 (Yeshwantpur-Tumakuru) will depart Yeshwantpur at 5.40 p.m. and arrive at Tumakuru at 7.05 p.m.

All the four trains will operate on all days except Sundays.

Train No. 06205 (Banaswadi-Tumakuru) will operate on Monday only, departing Banaswadi at 6.15 a.m. and arriving at Tumakuru at 8.35 a.m. Train No. 06206 (Tumakuru-Banaswadi) will operate on Saturday only, departing Tumakuru at 7.40 p.m. and arriving in Banaswadi at 10.05 p.m. All these MEMU trains will consist of eight coaches, providing ample space for commuters.

Meanwhile, commuters are happy about the new train routes. "I travel daily from Tumakuru to Yeshwanthpur for work, and the timings of these MEMU trains are perfect. It will cut down my commute time significantly," said Raghavendra S., a regular commuter.

This semi-automated tractor reduces the driver's role to a minimum

B.S. Satish Kumar
BENGALURU

The University of Agricultural Sciences-Bengaluru (UAS-B) has notched up efforts at integrating AI into farm machinery by developing a semi-automated tractor, which has reduced the role of driver to a minimum, at its Centre for Innovation and Development in Smart Agriculture (CIDSA).

Said to be the first such working model in the country, the tractor will have automated steering that follows a pre-set path which will be fed into its electronic control system.

A driver is needed to make the U-turn and operate the clutch, the brakes, and the gears. But the drudgery for the driver is minimised.

In a regular operation, the driver has to not only monitor the movement of the tractor, but also focus on tilling or spraying of pesticides. With semi automation, even a person without much skill in handling tractor-mounted farm devices can operate it, says H.G. Ashoka, special officer of the University's College of Engineering.

UAS-B Vice-Chancellor S.V. Suresha said the university is already working towards developing fully automated driver-less tractors in the next phase.

The tractor developed by University of Agricultural Sciences-Bengaluru can spray pesticide and apply fertiliser. SUDHAKARA JAIN

AI technology is also being used to spray pesticides and apply fertilisers, in addition to helping the driver understand whether there is any variation in depth level in tilling.

The tractor-mounted fittings like boom sprayer that sprays pesticides and automated fertiliser broadcaster that takes care of application of fertilisers will work automatically as per the requirement calculated on the basis of the nature of the soil and crop.

"The pesticide spraying and fertiliser broadcasting applications work with so much precision that there is no overlapping or over-spraying than the required quantum. Also, the nozzles of the sprayer close themselves when the vehicle is moving on empty land so that the pesticide is not wasted," observes Anand Huggi, manager of the centre.

Similarly, though tilling is not automated, this operation is made easy owing to a depth level monitoring system.

"During mechanical tilling, patches with soft soil get deep tilling though it is not required and result in excessive consumption of fuel. Similarly, patches with hard soil do not get the required depth of tilling that may affect crop production. But in this case, the driver will get an alert if there are any variation in depth with respect to tilling," says Mr. Huggi.

The centre, has been set up as a joint collaboration of the UAS-B, the State government, and Hexagon Agriculture, at a cost of ₹110 crore at the university's GKVK campus.

South East Central Railway

Tender Notice for Upgradation of electrical assets

TENDER NOTICE No: Sr. DEE(RS&G) BSP/OTP/24-25-14 Dated: 13.09.2024
Name of Work: Improvement/ Upgradation of electrical assets of General Services of Bilaspur Division. **Tender Value (Approx)** : ₹ 1,90,50,543.35/-, **EMD amount** : ₹ 2,45,300/-, **Tender Closing Date, Time:** 07.10.2024, 15.00 Hrs. For further details, eligibility criteria & complete details for the above work. Please refer/download tender document. Which is available on website **www.ireps.gov.in.**

Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer (RS&G)
CPR/10/PR/247
South East Central Railway @secrail

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No.Y/E.29/2024-25/55 Dated: 18-09-2024
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Description of work	Approx. Value
(Re-Tender) Conducting LV safety audit along with fire safety audit at Divisional Office Mysuru, Railway Hospital Mysuru, Mysuru Railway Station, Davangere & Shivamogga Railway Stations	Rs. 20,24,549.60

Last date for submission of bids : Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 09-10-2024
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/General
PUB/446/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25 Mysuru
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

NOTICE INVITING TENDER THROUGH e-TENDER

e-Tenders are invited from the eligible tenderers for the following works as per the procedure of CMWSSB conforming to the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act, 1998 and Rules 2000.

Sl. No.	Name of work and Tender No.	EMD amount in Rs.	Availability of Tender Schedule	e-Bid Submission closing Date	e-Bid Opening Date
1	Supply and delivery of 450mm dia FRC Machine Hole Door with Frame as per IS 12592:2002 Heavy Duty to its latest revision on Annual Rate Contract basis for the year 2024-25. **Tender no.: MAT/OT/015/2024-25**	Rs. 1,57,000/-	26.09.2024 to 14.10.2024 upto 3.00 P.M	14.10.2024 upto 3.00 P.M.	15.10.2024 at 3.30 P.M.
2	Supply and delivery of 600mm dia FRC Machine Hole Door with Frame as per IS 12592:2002 Heavy Duty to its latest revision on Annual Rate Contract basis for the year 2024-25. **Tender no.: MAT/OT/016/2024-25**	Rs. 4,71,000/-	26.09.2024 to 14.10.2024 upto 3.00 P.M	14.10.2024 upto 3.00 P.M.	15.10.2024 at 3.30 P.M.
3	EMD by online transfer only through NIC Portal. The tenderer shall submit scanned copy of online transaction statement towards EMD as part of Tender document.				
4	Availability of tender documents and e-bid submission is permitted through tender portal / website: www.tntenders.gov.in For all other details refer tender schedule in the website from 26.09.2024.				

தேவை இத்தருணம் – குடிநீர் சிக்கனம் DIPR/3840/Tender/2024 PURCHASE MANAGER

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the Public that Original Sale Deed dated 30.01.1997 registered as document No.4720/1996-97 of Book-I in the office of the Sub-Registrar Yalahanka Bangalore & Sale Deed dated 06.12.2000 registered as document No.4530/2000-01 of Book-I in the office of the Sub-Registrar Yalahanka Bangalore in respect of Site No.64, Khatha No.501, Situated at **Chikkabettahalli Village, Yalahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** has been lost. All the persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the Sale Deed If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within **7 days** from this present along with that Police complaint is also given vide Lost Report No. 1255507/2024

Y. Sowmya Yadav, Advocate
Samvruddhi Legal, # 83, Ground Floor, 5th 'A' Cross, 21st Main, J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore-78. **M : 9916343921**

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED

Office of the Deputy General Manager-3 (BSWML), 1st Floor, UNI Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560 052.

No.: DGM-3/(BSWML)/TEND-3/Corr-01/24-25 Date: 24.09.2024

CORRIGENDUM- 1

Sub: Extension of Calendar of Events for Tender Notification.
Ref: This office Tender Notification No: DGM-3/BSWML/TEND/03/24-25, Dated: 31.08.2024

As per the above subject and reference, the calendar of events for the above tender notification is extended due to Administrative and Technical reasons.

Time schedule /calendar of events:

Sl. No.		As per tender notification	Extended dates please read as
1	Last date and time for uploading qualification documents	On 26.09.2024 upto 16:00 hrs.	On 14.10.2024 upto 16:00 hrs.
2	Opening of tender date and time	On 27.09.2024 upto 16:30 hrs.	On 15.10.2024 upto 16:30 hrs.

For Further details visit GOK kpp portal Website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-3, BSWML

DIPR/CP/LC/2166/2024-25

Government of Telangana
HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD
O/o. Chief General Manager (Engg), STP Circle-II, Khairatabad, Hyderabad - 04, Telangana State.

Lr No: HMWSSB/CGM(E)/STP Cir-II/T'notices/2024-25/1637 Date : 24.09.2024

e-tender Notice No. & Date

1. **EP. No. 05/CGM(E)/STP Circle-II/Odour Control/MP'cheruvu/2024-25, Dated : 23.09.2024.**
Name of the Work : Design, Manufacture, Supply, Delivery, erection and commissioning of Odour Control System for 7MLD Capacity STP at Miyapur Patel Cheruvu, Hyderabad under Project Div-II, S.R. Nagar, HMWSSB.

Estimate contract value : Rs. 141.19 Lakhs

2. **EP. No. 06/CGM(E)/STP Circle-II/Odour Control/R'vista/2024-25, Dated : 23.09.2024.**
Name of the Work : Design, Manufacture, Supply, Delivery, erection and commissioning of Odour Control System for 43.5MLD Capacity STP at Rainbow vista, Hyderabad under Project Div-IV, Goshamahal, HMWSSB.

Estimate contract value : Rs. 379.14 Lakhs

1. Tender Documents will be available online from **Date : 25.09.2024 from 3.00 P.M. onwards** and last date for receipt of tender is **Date : 04.10.2024 Upto 3.00 P.M. 2.** Name & address of Chief General Manager (Engg), concerned - **Chief General Manager (Engg), STP Circle-II, HMWSSB, Khairatabad, Hyderabad -04. 3.** The Contractors/ firms are requested to upload the information in the 'ZIP' format preferably. **4.** Further details can be seen @ **https://www.eprocurement.gov.in**

Sd/- Chief General Manager (Engg), STP Circle-II, Khairatabad, Hyd - 04, Telangana State.

Government of Karnataka - Horticulture Department
Office of the Special Officer, Sri Krishna Rajendra Hill Station, Kemmannugundi, Kallattipura (P), Tarikere Taluk, Chikkamagaluru - 577129
Ph: 08261-200008 e-mail: krhskmg.1@gmail.com

ಸಂ:ತೋಇ/ವಿಆ/ಶ್ರೀಕೃರಾಗಿ/ಕೆ/ಖನಿ/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20.09.2024

e-Procurement Tender Notice

It is hereby published that from the Office of the Special Officer, Sri Krishna Rajendra Hill Station, Kemmannugundi, Itemwar Rate online Tenders are invited from eligible firms for providing services of collecting entrance and vehicle parking fee to Sri Krishna Rajendra Hill Station and providing Human Resource services on outsource basis for two years towards maintenance at Sri Krishna Rajendra Hill Station and Kallattagiri Gardens and interested firms should submit the tenders mentioning the rates through e-procurement portal (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) online as per dates fixed mentioned below.

1. Last date for submission of Tender: 18.10.2024 **2.** Date of opening the Tenders: 19.10.2024
3. Time Period of Work: 2 Years

Sl. No. 1. Name of Work: For providing services of collecting entrance and vehicle parking fee to Sri Krishna Rajendra Hill Station Kemmannugundi. (Tender No.: KSDH/2023-24/SE0071) **Amount put to Tender (Rs. in lakhs):** 86 **Sl. No. 2. Name of Work:** For providing Human Resource services on outsource basis for two years towards maintenance at Sri Krishna Rajendra Hill Station and Kallattagiri Gardens (Tender No.: KSDH/2024-25/SE0285) **Amount put to Tender (Rs. in lakhs):** 99

Sd/- Special Officer, Horticulture Department, Sri Krishna Rajendra Hill Station, Kemmannugundi - 577129 Tarikere Taluk, Chikkamagaluru.

ಜಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಕೆಮಸ್ಎಂಸಿ/ಟಿ/24–25/73/743

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client intends to purchase Property bearing **No. 48/242/1,** Khata No.181, presently falling within the limits of BBMP measuring East to West 50.50 ft. and North to South 118 ft. in all measuring **6000 Sq ft,** together with a building measuring **4400 Sq. ft.**, built up area, situated at **Borewell Road, Whitefield Village, K. R Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk** and bounded on
East by : Property of Mr. Giddens;
West by : 20 feet Road;
North by : Borewell Road;
South by : Property of Mr. Chandra Kaul.
From its **Owner Mrs. Christine F Jamal.** Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections / claims with documentary evidence within **7 days** from the date of this publication to the undersigned.

Adv. Geetha Halliyal,
TAVISA LEGAL Advocates
42 High Street, No.775, 2nd Floor, 100 feet Road, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038, Ph : 9980519476
email : geethahalliyal@gmail.com

Govt. of Jharkhand
ROAD CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT
Road Divison , Seraikella-Kharsawan

Very Short-Term e-Procurement Notice

Tender Reference No. RCD/SERAIKELLA/05 Date :- 23.09.2024

1.	Name of the work	Remaining Work in Construction of High level Bridge (Including Approach Road) over SANJAY RIVER at 7th Km. of SERAIKELLA-KHARSAWAN Road (MDR-144) for the year 2024-25
2.	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Rs. 6,44,30,659.85 (Rupees Six Crores Forty Four Lakh Thirty Thousand Six hundred Fifty Nine and Paise Eighty Five) only
3.	Time of Completion	06 (Six) Months
4.	Last Date /Time for receipt of bids	07.10.2024 (12.00 Noon)
5.	Date of Publication of Tender on website	27.09.2024 (06.30 PM)
6.	Name & Address of office Inviting tender	Sri Ashok Kumar Rajak, O/o Executive Engineer , Road Construction Department , Road Division , Seraikella-Kharsawan
7.	Contact no. of Procurement Officer	9199867872
8.	Helpline number of e-Procurement cell	0651-2401010

Estimated Cost may be increase or decrease
Further details can be seen on website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in

Executive Engineer
RCD , Road Division
Seraikella-Kharsawan

PR 336804 (Road) 24-25 (D)

GOVT. OF JHARKHAND
CABINET SECRETARIAT AND VIGILANCE DEPARTMENT
(CIVIL AVIATION DIVISION)
STATE HANGAR, AIRPORT ROAD, HINOO, RANCHI-834002
email:- civilaviation.jhr@gmail.com/ govtflyops@gmail.com
Telefax:- 0651-2250319, 2251090

Memo No.-548 /Ranchi, Dated:-23.09.2024

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) UNDER SINGLE BID SYSTEM FOR CHARTERING TWIN/MULTI/JET ENGINE/TURBOPROP AIRCRAFT ON AS AND WHEN REQUIRED BASIS FOR VVIP/VIP OPERATIONS OF GOVT. OF JHARKHAND.

Online Tenders (EOIs) under single bid system are hereby invited by the Govt. of Jharkhand from Twin/Multi/Jet Engine/Turboprop Service operators to be included in empanelled list for chartering following types of twin/multi engine aircraft on as and when required basis through e-tendering mode at jharkhandtenders.gov.in as stated below:-

Tender reference number :-	CAD/VIII/14/2009-part-1/547, Dtd.-23.09.2024
Work Description :-	Online Tenders (EOIs) under single bid system are hereby invited by the Govt. of Jharkhand from Twin/Multi/Jet Engine/Turboprop Service operators to be included in empanelled list for chartering following types of twin/multi engine aircraft on as and when required basis.
Date and time of publish of EOI on website and download of tender document :-	24/09/2024 ; 1000 Hrs
Starting of Bid Submission :-	24/09/2024 ; 1000 Hrs
End of Bid Submission :-	15/10/2024; 1800 Hrs
Date and time of opening of bids :-	17/10/2024; 1200 Hrs
Contact Number :-	0651-2250319 /6205246546 (Shri Chanchal)

For further details and application, please visit www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in

Sd/-
(Capt. S. P. Sinha)
Director (Ops.)
Cabinet Secretariat and Vigilance Department (Civil Aviation Division)

PR 336793
Civil Aviation(24-25).D

JHARKHAND MEDICAL & HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT & PROCUREMENT CORPORATION LTD.
MCH BUILDING, RCH CAMPUS, NAMKUM, RANCHI – 834010.
(CIN – U855100JH2013SGC001276)E-mail:jmhidpc2014@gmail.com
Website: https://jmhidpcl.jharkhand.gov.in/, GST No. 20AADCJ4293L2ZH

Bid Ref. No.JMC/NIT-24/RAPID KIT/17 Date: 23-09-2024

TENDER FOR RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF RAPID TEST KITS.

The **Managing Director, (JMHIDPCL), Ranchi** hereby invites separate **Technical Bid** and **Financial Bid** (two envelope system) through e-procurement from eligible **manufacturer /Dealer/Authorized Agency** Rate Contract for Supply Medicines.
The Bid documents with detailed conditions can be viewed and downloaded through website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in and should be submitted through e-procurement system only. The eligible Bidder(s) willing to participate must be registered in e-procurement portal.

Particulars	Date & Time
Time of Completion	Within 60 days after issue of work order
Date of Publication of Bid	25-09-2024
Pre-bid Meeting	30-09-2024 03:00 PM
Bid Submission Start Date	08-10-2024
Bid Submission Closing Date & Time	16-10-2024 05:00 PM
Bid Opening Date for Technical Proposal	17-10-2024 05:00 PM
Date of Opening of Financial Proposal	To be notified later
Application Fee (Non-Refundable)	5900/- Inclusive GST (Online Payment)
Earnest Money Deposit	100000/-(Online Payment gateway)
Contact/ Helpline No. of E-Procurement Cell	+91-8709368893

Note: The above dates may change due to declaration of holidays. In the event of any of the dates being declared as a holiday for the office of the JMHIDPCL, the Bids will be opened on the next working day at the appointed time. JMHIDPCL reserves the right to amend or withdraw any of the terms and conditions contained in the Bid document including quantity/ number of Medicines to be supplied or to reject any or all Bids without giving any notice or assigning any reason. The decision of the Managing Director, JMHIDPCL in this regard shall be final.
Detailed Bid document can be seen, downloaded, and applied through website http://jharkhand tenders.gov.in only,

Sd/-
Managing Director
JMHIDPCL

PR 336835 Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Dev & Procurement Corp Ltd(24-25).D

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that my client **Sri.Shashi Kumar. V** intends to purchase property described in the schedule given below and referred to as schedule property from **Manjunath.E** S/o Erappa residing at Bidaragere Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-Dist, which is the absolute owner.
Any persons who other than the owner named above having any claim/s in respect of the schedule property or any objects to the aforesaid transaction in any manner is/are required to forward the same to the undersigned along with the relevant documents thereof, **within 7 days** from the date of publication of this notice in this newspaper. In the absence of any claims or objections within the above said period it shall be deemed that there are no claims or objections or that they have been waived and my client will proceed with the transaction of schedule property without any further reference in this regard.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the part and parcel of the Agricultural land bearing Sy. No. 10/2, measuring 0.21 guntas, situated at Muthagatti village, KasabaHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District , bounded on:-
East by : Property of Seenappa,
West by : Property of Thimarju,
North by : Property of Venkataswmy,
South by : Road,

Sd/- **Mohanakantha.K,.** MA,LLB.
Advocate,
Off at. No.1, Mohammed Goues Building, Behind Court Complex, Anekal Town, Bengaluru-562 106
Phone: 8970287809

Six-eggs-a-week scheme in schools starts today

However, there are concerns from teachers who say that the procurement price prescribed by the government does not match the prevailing rate in the market

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

A file photo of students in Mysuru being supplied boiled eggs along with rice, as part of the midday meals.

The State government will begin distributing eggs for six days a week to children of classes 1 to 10 in government and aided schools, in partnership with the Azim Premji Foundation for Development (APF), on Wednesday, amidst concerns by teachers who say that government procurement price does not match the prevailing rate in the market.

The teachers are also unhappy over a slew of norms prescribed by the government for the procurement of eggs that include formation of a school-level purchase committee, getting quotes from a minimum of three qualified suppliers, and suggestion to buy at below-market prices and ensuring competitive prices, as they think these are not practical given the ground realities.

"We used to buy eggs directly from poultry farms. But the government is asking us to buy from wholesalers. But there are no wholesale egg suppliers in most of the taluk centres. How is it possible for us to buy at below-market prices?" wondered a headmaster.

So far, boiled eggs were being distributed twice a week as supplementary nutrition to school children, while banana or peanut chikki were being offered as alternatives to those who do not eat eggs.

The government has joined hands with the APF to ensure supply of these nutrients to children in the remaining four days of the week. According to the MoU signed last month, the APF will provide ₹1,500 crore over the next three years for the scheme that would benefit around 55 lakh children.

The government has directed teachers to distribute eggs of good quality with a minimum weight of 50 grams, and fixed the unit cost as ₹6 per egg. Of this, ₹5 is earmarked for the purchase while the fuel cost for boiling the egg is 50 paise, the peeling cost is 30 paise, and the transportation cost is 20 paise.

The prescribed price level of ₹5 is the cause for concern as egg prices are between ₹5.8 and ₹6.5 in the wholesale market and around ₹7 in the retail market. "Who will supply eggs at ₹5 at a loss of 80 paise to ₹1.5?," asked another headmaster.

"We welcome the government's initiative to provide eggs to schoolchildren six days a week. But the government has entrusted the responsibility of procurement and distributing eggs along with cooking on teachers. It will be difficult for teachers to manage as they are already suffering a lot from various extra-curricular activities. The teachers can effectively focus on teaching if the distribution is entrusted to anganwadi centres or local self-help groups/NGOs," said another teacher.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, B.B. Cauvery, Commissioner of Public Instruction, said: "Once the scheme is implemented, the revision of unit cost of eggs will be discussed. If necessary, the egg price will be revised. The APF has assured the government of bearing the additional cost if the egg prices are revised."

She warned of strict action against teachers if they give bananas or chikkis to children instead of eggs by saying that prices are high.

'Anti-stigma campaigns crucial to promoting mental well-being'

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

NIMHANS has been conducting 'Mental Health Santhe', an unique anti-stigma campaign, for the last two years. FILE PHOTO

A paper by NIMHANS researchers has emphasised that anti-stigma campaigns, such as 'Mental Health Santhe', can promote mental well-being, dispel myths and misconceptions, and reduce the treatment gap. The paper was recently published in the *Indian Journal of Psychological Medicine*.

NIMHANS has been conducting "Mental Health Santhe", an unique anti-stigma campaign, for the last two years to raise awareness about mental health issues and suicide prevention, including the accessibility of resources, interventions, treatment facilities, emerging scope for education, and research.

The third one is scheduled to be held on October 15.

"The Mental Health Santhe initiative will emphasise incorporating robust statistical methodologies in upcoming editions. This strategic shift aims to bolster the initiative's efficacy by enabling more accurate data collection and analysis, thereby providing valuable insights into the event's impact on mental health awareness and help-seeking behaviors," said K.S. Meena, professor and head of the Department of Mental Health Education at NIMHANS.

"Stigma surrounding mental illness and suicide is prevalent worldwide, inhibiting people from seeking help and limiting their access to available mental health facilities. Consequently, it widens the gap in the treatment of mental health. There have been innumerable anti-stigma initiatives by lower-middle-income countries (LMICs) that have replicated the already existing strategies used by high-income countries (HICs), hoping for a similar outcome. Our article highlights the necessity for launching an anti-stigma campaign tailored to our demographics, with a strong focus on using an emic approach as its foundation," said Dr. Meena, who is the corresponding author of the article.

Findings from the National Mental Health Survey (NMHS) conducted from 2015 to 2016 underscored a substantial treatment gap for mental health in India, reaching as high as 83.4%.

In the realm of mental healthcare service and resource utilisation, various factors contribute to the treatment gap, encompassing a lack of perceived necessity, societal stigma, insufficient awareness regarding the accessibility and availability of healthcare resources, financial constraints hindering treatment affordability and uncertainty regsarding treatment efficacy. "Among these factors, stigma and discrimination against individuals with mental and behavioural disorders emerge as the foremost barrier, necessitating community attention." the doctor pointed out.

Recent studies have elucidated the detrimental impact of mental illness stigmatisation manifesting in diminished self-esteem, poor quality of life, negative perceptions toward mental health services, lack of social support, and unfavourable prognosis for affected individuals.

The "Mental Health Santhe - Wellness is Fundamental" campaign by NIMHANS is an initiative that integrates a cultural framework into mental health interventions to combat stigma and promote social integration. "The previous santhe brought together a diverse array of key stakeholders, bringing their expertise in areas of mental health and suicide prevention to promote mental well-being through community engagement. What sets it apart from other mental health campaigns globally is building upon the pre-existing concept of santhe, emphasising cultural relevance, community engagement, and multidisciplinary collaboration of the public, media, and organisations for initiating conversations around mental health," Dr. Meena explained.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, SEP. 25	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:13
RISE 00:00	SET 13:11
THURSDAY, SEP. 26	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:13
RISE 00:42	SET 14:04
FRIDAY, SEP. 27	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:12
RISE 01:39	SET 14:52

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	24
Mysuru	29	20
Bengaluru	29	22

Bengaluru Today
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower will occur at few places.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C The weather will be slight warm. Night also will be pleasant. Spell of ight rain and thundershower may occur.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2024
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

Welfare board for gig workers reflects our belief in inclusive development: CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

This July, the Karnataka government introduced the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Social Security and Welfare Rules, which aim to provide coverage for approximately 5.4 million workers across various roles in the transportation sector. FILE PHOTO

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said that the State government's Welfare Board for Unorganised Motor Transport and Gig Workers is the first of its kind in India.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony of the Society for Automotive Fitness and Environment (SAFE) annual convention in Bengaluru on Tuesday, the Chief Minister said: "This initiative reflects our belief in inclusive development, ensuring that the benefits of progress reach every segment of society."

He emphasised the importance of safeguarding the interests of unorganised workers in the motor transport sector.

This July, the Karnataka government introduced the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Social Security and Welfare Rules, which aim to provide coverage for approximately 5.4 million workers across various roles in the transportation sector. The rules are designed to offer these workers social security benefits, ensuring they have access to necessary protections in their professions. The convention this year had the theme: "United Efforts for Road Safety: Our Roads, Our Responsibility".

Mr. Siddaramaiah stressed the significance of road safety. "As Chief Minister, I have personally overseen several initiatives aimed at reducing fatalities and improving road safety infrastructure," he said.

He pointed to ongoing collaborations with central agencies and private stakeholders to develop safer junctions, enhance signage and markings, and address black spots – areas prone to recurrent accidents and fatalities.

Additionally, he mentioned the government's focus on monitoring traffic violations such as speeding, rash driving, and drunk driving through technologies like speed cameras, AI-enabled red-light violation detection systems, and integrated traffic management centres.

"For instance, on the Bengaluru-Mysuru highway, the implementation of smart systems has significantly reduced accidents and fatalities," he added.

Kristu Jayanti College launches 'Kristu Jayanti Sarva Vikas'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Kristu Jayanti College, Autonomous, on Tuesday, launched 'Kristu Jayanti Sarva Vikas' programme, along with the inauguration of the campus farmers' market (CFM). The event was organised by the college's innovation centre and entrepreneurship and innovation centre.

Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry senior vice-president (elect) Uma Reddy, who inaugurated the event, said a direct connection between farmers and customers not only empowers farmers, but also enhances their visibility in the market.

The concept of value additions is key in boosting exports,she said.

In his presidential address, Fr. Lijo P. Thomas, vice-principal and CEO of the college, said: "We are determined to support farmers while simultaneously contributing to the country's growth.

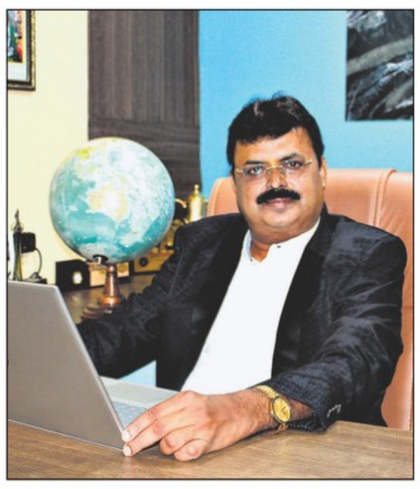
BUSINESS CONNECT
A Business Initiative

Olympia Onam Celebrations 2024: A Festive Extravaganza

Recently the 2 days Olympia Onam Celebrations 2024, held at Gopalan Olympia, Kumbalagodu was a vibrant blend of traditional games, cultural performances, and culinary delights, sponsored by Fabric Spa and India Best Waste Recycling. The first day featured Onakalikal (traditional games) such as Vadamvali (Tug of War), Uriyadi (breaking the pot), and Kuppayya Ottam (sack race), creating a fun-filled and competitive atmosphere. Several other games like musical chairs and lemon-and-spoon races ensured that all age groups were actively engaged in the festive fun. The second day began on a colorful note with a **Pookalam** (flower rangoli) competition, where intricate designs made of fresh flowers adorned the venue. The stunning displays reflected the creativity and skill of the participants, adding a beautiful splash of color to the celebrations. Following the Pookalam, the much-anticipated **Onam Sadhya** was served, a traditional feast featuring an array of authentic Kerala dishes. The grand spread, which included delicacies like avial, sambar, payasam, and banana chips, was enjoyed by all, symbolizing the bountiful harvest and the spirit of sharing. The afternoon came alive with a Singarimelam procession led by a robotic elephant, followed by cultural performances that showcased the essence of Onam. The grand finale was a thrilling musical performance by KGF fame Mohan Krishna and his Orchestra. Held at the Main Football Ground, decorated with kuruthola and photobooths, the event also featured a kids zone with snacks, cotton candy, and more, ensuring fun for the whole family. Overall, the Olympia Onam Celebrations 2024 were a huge success, bringing together the Gopalan Olympia community for two days of joy, togetherness, and cultural pride. The event perfectly embodied the spirit of Onam celebrating tradition, unity, and prosperity.

ADIGAS - 30 years of journey towards excellence.

The most trusted brand in Domestic and International tours " ADIGAS YATRA" successfully completes its 30 years and had the glory of 3 decades of service in the Tourism Industry. The visionary goals of the founder, MD Mr. K. Nagaraj Adiga, possessed a new vision and lots of new programs with pocket-friendly, go -easy tour policies, which make your tour memorable. Aldigas - commenced in the year 1994, in Hubli, when it comes to either Domestic tours or International Tours it is the "Apple of the eye" of Mr. K. Nagaraj Adiga, the founder and CEO of Adigas group, who took immense pain and struggled a lot to gain this popularity. In Adigas Yatra, the tourist has advantage of getting the co-tourists from different parts of Karnataka only. Hence they will not face language problems. They are identical in language , food and cultural background which gives a sense of " feel



at home" satisfaction during the tour. This can be ensured in ADIGAS both in Domestic as well as in International Tours. Travel hassle free as ADIGAS takes care of all requirements along with the funds. In collaboration with TATA AIG, ADIGAS offers free of cost Insurance to those who are below 80 years of age, for both International Tours & Domestic Fixed Departure tours. EMI - Travel now and pay later, is the concept. ADIGAS has joined hands with SANKASH, a Travel Enabler, who provides financial assistance to the Tourists who can enjoy their dream destination without paying a penny in advance. To avail these offers and information kindly visit our website www.adigasyatra.com or you can write to care@adigasyatra.com

Proposed ban on feeding pigeons near Mysuru palace ruffles feathers of activists

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

A number of activists turned up to feed pigeons near Mysuru palace on Tuesday. M.A. SRIRAM

A row has erupted over the issue of feeding pigeons near Mysuru palace with a group of activists turning up with grains early on Tuesday opposing the proposed move to ban the practice.

On Sunday, Mysuru MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar had called for a ban on the practice of feeding pigeons near Mysuru palace, citing damage to the heritage structures from the excrement of the birds and a threat to public health.

However, the group of activists led by retired professor of University of Mysore Nanjaraj Urs turned up near the palace with a packet of grains to feed the pigeons, contending that the birds had begun feeding on the elephant dung after the authorities prevented the people from feeding them grains.

The activists were stopped by Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) officials, sparking off an altercation. The officials said they had been orally informed to stop people from feeding the pigeons.

Prof. Urs said oral instructions could not become law and demanded a copy of the written orders. He also threatened to file a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petition if a law was passed to ban feeding the birds.

He questioned the rationale behind the MP's demand for banning feeding pigeons and criticized BJP leader Kautilya Raghu, who had raised the issue with the authorities a few months ago. "Why did it not occur to him that feeding the pigeons posed a threat when the BJP was in power," he questioned, while dismissing the arguments put forth by the MP and the BJP leader for preparing the ground to feed the pigeons.

The activists contended that the birds were used to finding grains near the palace and would flock the area in the hope of food. With the authorities preventing people from feeding the pigeons, the birds had begun consuming elephant dung found near the palace.

Mr. Yaduveer and Mr. Raghu had contended that the "toxic" pigeon excrement posed a threat to not only the structure of Mysuru palace, but also the marble statues of Chamaraja Wadiyar, Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar and Sri Jayachamarajendra Wadiyar nearby. They also contended that there was a threat of asthmatic attacks, particularly among children, if they were exposed to pigeons.

Naturalist Madhu and historian N.S. Rangaraju also endorsed the call for a ban on feeding of pigeons near Mysuru palace.

However, the activists dismissed the arguments put forth by the MP and demanded lifting of the curbs on feeding of pigeons.

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

Siddaramaiah was behind the smoke screen for all benefits that went to his wife from MUDA: HC

How and why the rules were bent in favour of the family of the Chief Minister is what is required to be investigated, the court observes while dismissing his petition

Krishnaprasad
BENGALURU

Observing that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is "undoubtedly, behind the smoke screen for every benefit that has flown to his wife" in the form of 14 sites allotted to her in a posh locality in Mysuru, the High Court of Karnataka has said that how and why the rules were bent in favour of the family is what is required to be investigated.

"If this does not require investigation, I fail to understand what other case can merit investigation, as the beneficiary is the family of the petitioner [Mr. Siddaramaiah] and the benefit is by leaps and bounds, it is in fact a windfall," Justice M. Nagaprasanna observed in his judgment on Tuesday.

In quick succession

All the allegations would require investigation in the least, for the reason that "if Mr. Siddaramaiah was not in the seat of power, helm of affairs, the benefit with such magnitude would not have flown," the court said while pointing out that "it is unheard of for a common man to get these benefits in such quick succession bending the rule from time to time".

> If this were to be a case of a common man, he would not have fought shy of facing the investigation. In the opinion of the court, the Chief Minister, a leader of the proletariat, the bourgeois and of any citizen, should not fight shy of any investigation.
>
> **JUSTICE M. NAGAPRASANNA,** judge of the High Court of Karnataka

The court pointed out that "Mr. Sidddaramaiah may not have put his signature, made a recommendation or taken a decision, for bringing him into the offence against him under the Act, but the beneficiary is not a stranger. The beneficiary of these acts is the wife of the petitioner. It is the open proclamation which is in the public domain by Mr. Siddaramaiah himself that if MUDA gives him ₹62 crore, he would give back the property".

Therefore, the court said that "merely because the wife of the petitioner [Mr. Siddaramaiah] has indulged in all these acts, legal or illegal, the petitioner cannot be said to be completely ignorant of what is happening in the life of his wife, *qua* these factors. It, *prima facie*, depicts stretching of the arms of undue influence and portrays abuse of power of the seat of the Chief Minister or any other post held by Mr. Siddaramaiah".

Stating that the denotification of three acres and 16 guntas of land acquired by the MUDA way back in 1992-1997 itself was illegal on the face of it, the court pointed out that rules for allotment of alternative sites were amended to benefit Parvathi, Mr. Siddaramaiah's wife. But for amendment of rule, she was only entitled to two sites measuring 40x60 ft which would amount to 4,800 sq. ft for relinquishing more than three acres of land in terms of MUDA's 1991 incentive scheme, which was in fact, quoted in the sale deeds of 14 sites registered in her favour.

What is further surprising is, the court said, the moment benefit was flown to the hands of Mr. Siddaramaiah's wife, the proceedings began to withdraw the amended rule of 50:50 ratio for allotting developed land in liue of acquired land.

Dots to be connected

"If events or the link in the chain of events are noted, there are a few dots to be connected. It is that connection of dots that would require an inquiry or an investigation in the least. I say so for the reason that immediately after 14 sale deeds were registered in favour of the wife of the petitioner, the Urban Development Department issued directions to the Commissioner, MUDA, to stop allocation of compensatory sites till guidelines are formulated."

In fact, the court noted that on Mr. Siddaramaiah becoming Chief Minister in 2023, the MUDA's resolution for adopting the 50:50 ratio was withdrawn in October 2023. When the resolution based on which sites were allotted to Mr. Siddaramaiah's wife itself was withdrawn as to be contrary to the law, what happens to the 14 sites that were granted on the basis of an illegal resolution, is a matter that requires investigation, the court said.

CM: I have no hesitation in facing investigation, but will not quit

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Hours after the High Court of Karnataka upheld the Governor's action of grating permission to conduct an investigation against him in the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) case, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday said he had "no hesitation in facing any investigation", and would consult with legal experts to understand whether such an investigation was permissible under the law.

"After discussions with legal experts, I will decide on the further course of action," he said at a press conference flanked by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and other Cabinet colleagues. Mr. Siddaramaiah reiterated that he had committed no mistake and ruled out his resignation from the post.

He underlined that the court had dismissed the sanction for prosecution granted by the Governor under Section 218 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023.

Limited decision

"The honourable judge has limited his decision only to Section 17(A) in the Governor's order. The complainant had requested investigation and prosecution under Section 218 of the BNSS and Sections 17(A) and 19 of the Prevention of Corruption Act. However, the Governor had initially rejected the request for prosecution under Section 19 of the Prevention of Corruption Act," the Chief Minister said. "I am confident that, in the coming days, the truth will prevail and the investigation allowed under Section 17(A) will also be cancelled."

Firm stand: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah along with his Cabinet colleagues at a press meet in Bengaluru on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

> I have faith in the law and the Constitution... I firmly believe that in the end, truth will prevail. This is a fight against the vengeful politics of the Central government led by Narendra Modi.
>
> **SIDDARAMAIAH,** Chief Minister

Stating that in this political battle, the people of Karnataka were with him, he said, "I have full faith in the law and the Constitution. In this fight, I firmly believe that in the end, truth will prevail. This is a fight against the vengeful politics of the Central government led by Narendra Modi."

Hitting out at the Opposition, he said, "Our legal battle against the vindictive politics of the BJP and the JD(S) will continue. The BJP and the JD(S) have resorted to political revenge because I stand for the poor and fight for social justice. I have complete faith in the judiciary." He said the MUDA case was "just an excuse" and the real intention of the BJP and the JD(S) was to "halt the pro-poor and pro-marginalised schemes of our government". He said that all MLAs, leaders, and workers of the party, as well as the Congress high command, stood firmly with him, and encouraged him to continue the legal battle. He further argued that the BJP was frustrated because the people of Karnataka had never given the BJP enough majority to form a government on its own. "The BJP has always come to power through unethical means, like 'Operation Kamala', using money and manipulation." In the 2023 elections, the Congress secured a clear majority with 136 seats in the 224-member Assembly.

Pattern across country

"Across the country, under the leadership of Narendra Modi, the BJP is carrying out a conspiracy to misuse Raj Bhavans to destabilise State governments of Opposition parties. In my case too, the BJP and JD(S) will surely face defeat in this conspiracy," the Chief Minister said.

'Will approach the Division Bench of HC'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda has said the State government will appeal the High Court ruling against the Chief Minister in the Division Bench of the High Court of Karnataka. "We will approach the Division Bench of the High Court. Later, we will see about moving the Supreme Court," Mr. Gowda said on Tuesday. "We will aggressively fight," he said, and alleged that the Raj Bhavan had been "transformed into a BJP office".

BJP, JD(S) demand immediate resignation of Siddaramaiah

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Opposition BJP and JD (S) have demanded the immediate resignation of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, close on the heels of the Karnataka High Court dismissing his petition challenging the permission granted by Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot in the MUDA case.

"It is now clear that *prima facie* a case has been made out against the Chief Minister. Mr. Siddaramaiah should uphold the dignity of his post by immediately resigning on moral grounds," BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra told mediapersons minutes after the pronouncement of the order by the court.

Padayatra impact

"The Chief Minister should show respect towards the order of the High Court by immediately tendering resignation. If he fails to do so, we will discuss in the party about the future course of action," he said. Referring to the campaign taken up by the Opposition BJP and JD(S) against alleged irregularities in MUDA and Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki ST Development Corporation, Mr. Vijayendra described the verdict of the High Court as the first victory for the Opposition.

Meanwhile, in a statement on X, the JD(S) said it was "shameful" that the Chief Minister was insisting on hanging on to his post despite the verdict of the High Court. "He should resign for misusing power and indulging in corruption," the party said. "Walk the talk on this issue as you often say," the party said. The NDA partner also called the court verdict "a victory for the Mysuru Chalo agitation".

Building pressure: BJP supporters staging a protest against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in Bengaluru on Tuesday.

Mr. Vijayendra, at the press meet, accused the Chief Minister of trying to escape from the law by constituting a judicial commission to look into alleged irregularities in MUDA, and also evading a debate on the issue in the legislature.

"Even when the Governor gave sanction for prosecution based on private complaints, the Chief Minister challenged the order in the Karnataka High Court. After a detailed order, the court dismissed his petition and upheld the action of the Governor. Hence, Mr. Siddaramaiah should immediately quit without any further delay," he said.

"The claim of the Chief Minister about providing corruption-free governance has collapsed," Mr. Vijayendra said, and described him as "tainted".

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok too demanded the immediate resignation of the Chief Minister. He termed the court's verdict as a crack of the whip against the Congress that had launched an attack at the Governor.

BJP MLC C.T. Ravi also demanded a public apology from the Congress for attacking the Governor and issuing allegedly intimidating statements against the Raj Bhavan.

The BJP workers held demonstrations in many parts of Karnataka demanding the Chief Minister's resignation.

BJP planning legal fight to seek a CBI probe

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In the wake of the High Court ruling, the Opposition BJP is now examining the option of taking up a legal battle to ensure that the probe is taken up by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) instead of any State agency.

This is in addition to the plans to build pressure on Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to quit through a public campaign, sources in the party said. BJP leaders have asked their local units across the State to observe a black flag demonstration on Wednesday demanding the Siddaramaiah's resignation. "The court upholding the sanction granted by the Governor to investigate Mr. Siddaramaiah in the MUDA case is the first level of victory for the campaign taken up by the BJP and the JD(S). The next focus is to ensure that a Central agency like the CBI takes up the probe to ensure neutrality," a BJP source said. For now, BJP leaders have decided to adopt a wait-and-watch policy to see the legal steps to be initiated by the Chief Minister and how the Congress looks at the court verdict.

HC ruling on probe a political setback to Siddaramaiah?

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka ruling on conducting an investigation into the alleged illegalities committed in the allotment of 14 Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) sites to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife is seen as a political setback to the Congress leader, who has had a "Mr. Clean" image in his political career spanning over four decades.

Besides the continuation of the legal battle, the alleged MUDA scam is expected to lead to another round of confrontation between the ruling Congress and the Raj Bhavan. Meanwhile, the Chief Minister and his Cabinet colleagues are finding themselves on the back foot to defend themselves to counter a collective onslaught from the BJP and its ally, the JD(S), in the alleged MUDA and Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation scams.

In focus: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah leaving for the High Court in Bengaluru on Tuesday. PTI

With the Chief Minister having decided to challenge the court's ruling, it seems the State government is unlikely to take any major decisions related to reshuffling the State Cabinet and holding elections to rural and urban local bodies, including the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, in the near future.

Further, Ministers and leaders believe that changing the Chief Minister under the present circumstances would lead to the admission of committing wrong and falling to the trap laid by the Opposition parties.

Role in future elections

With the Chief Minister openly declaring that he has not committed any mistakes in the alleged MUDA scam, sources said the party high command was unlikely to take any major decision such as resignation. The high command knows well the popularity of the Chief Minister in Karnataka and that his support is crucial for the party in the coming elections/byelections in three Assembly segments and local body polls in Karnataka and in other States where the Assembly polls will be held, said sources.

The Assembly election process is under way in Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir. The Election Commission is expected to hold polls in Maharashtra in November-December. As Karnataka is a key State where the Congress is in power, the party high command is believed to be against changing the Chief Minister at this juncture, sources maintained.

No consensus candidate

A party leader said besides Mr. Siddaramaiah, "there is no consensus candidate" among the legislators to emerge as the chief ministerial candidate and this is the major reason for Ministers backing his leadership.

With the BJP and JD(S) combine having begun to seek the resignation of the Chief Minister, the Congress is expected to use its OBC plank to counter the Opposition. The Congress has been projecting the probe into the alleged MUDA land scam as a ploy to target "an OBC Chief Minister" by the BJP-JD(S) and to topple the implementation of pro-poor schemes such as the five guarantees.

The special court for people's representatives is expected to hear complaints about the alleged MUDA scam on Wednesday. Till then, the party leaders have decided to adopt a wait-and-watch policy and are expected to take a decision on the way forward only after the special court's ruling on the matter, a legislator said.

Will not ask CM to resign: Kumaraswamy

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Taking a different stand from that of the BJP that is pressing for the resignation of the Chief Minister, who suffered a setback in Karnataka High Court, the saffron party's ally and Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy on Tuesday said he would not demand the resignation of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

"I will not urge Mr. Siddaramaiah to resign. I will also not respond to the situation. I had participated in the Mysuru Chalo padayatra along with BJP leaders, and I have created awareness among people... The courts will give orders with respect to illegality," he told pressperssons at Nagamangala in Mandya district in response to the High Court's order. Though Mr. Kumaraswamy said he would not demand the resignation of the Chief Minister, his party, the JD(S), in a series of posts on X soon after the verdict demanded Mr. Siddaramaiah's resignation. The party also attacked the Chief Minister for continuing in his post despite the court's verdict.

Mr. Kumaraswamy said, "I will not tell Mr. Siddaramaiah anything nor will I give my opinion. If he does not take up moral responsibility, can I ask him to take it? He has said that I have done something wrong. I need clarity on my morality issue. I will speak after my prosecution sanction issue is cleared. I will fight legally."

Opening up BMTC, BMRCL data: Can it ease first, last-mile connectivity woes in the city?

The recently launched 'Enroute: A mobility-as-a-service challenge' has offered a glimpse of how this could potentially change public transport in Bengaluru

Rasheed Kappan
BENGALURU

Two start-ups, Namma Yatri and Tummoc, won the Enroute challenge and unveiled the manner in which they would use transit data to plan trips by bus, metro or by walk, complete with detailed itineraries. K. MURALI KUMAR

What if you can plan and predict your entire home-to-destination journey without ever taking out your car or bike? What if you don't waste a minute waiting as you seamlessly switch from an autorickshaw to the Metro to a BMTC bus to a cab, before you reach the end point well in time?

This is exactly what could get real when the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) and the Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) share their real-time transit data with mobility start-ups, designing solutions to bridge the first and last-mile gaps of everyday commute. The recently launched "Enroute: A mobility-as-a-service challenge" has offered a glimpse of how this could potentially change public transport in Bengaluru.

Live-tracking

The city's two largest public transport agencies opening up real-time data would mean this: Identify and spot the real-time location of a BMTC bus on a specific route, which helps in estimating its arrival at any bus stop along its path. The same applies to Namma Metro, more so as it expands its network across the city.

The data is uploaded as General Transit Feed Specification (GTFS) onto a portal called Transport Data Hub (tdh.dult-karnataka.com) facilitated by the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT). Two start-ups, Namma Yatri and Tummoc, won the Enroute challenge and unveiled the manner in which they would use the data to plan trips by bus, Metro or by walk, complete with detailed itineraries.

Opening up GTFS could be a game-changer. "Today, you can figure out where a flight is between San Francisco and Bengaluru at a particular moment, whether it is on top of Singapore or over Alaska. But without GTFS data, there is no way to know whether a BMTC G4 bus between M.G. Road and Bannerghatta Road is near Marble Street or near Vega Mall," says Srinivas Alavilli, Fellow, Integrated Transport and Road Safety at the World Resources Institute (WRI) India.

Now, Namma Yatri and Tummoc will add new features to their products based on the open data. "Namma Yatri will be able to talk to these two and give you an alert even as you are inside a Metro train and are approaching your destination station. Its app would ask you whether you would like to book an auto, or want to walk or any other option," he explains.

Namma Yatri and Tummoc will add new features to their products based on the open data.

Long associated with BMTC for ticketing, day and monthly pass solutions, Tummoc too will use the GTFS data to extend their digital integration with the transport corporation. "Now they have expanded to Metro and journey planning across modes. They will be able to tell you that this week you made these many public transport trips and therefore you qualify for a free daily pass. Innovations such as these rewards for sustainable transport behaviour are coming soon."

BMTC has already declared its intent. At the launch of the Enroute challenge, its IT Director Shilpa M. had said that its GTFS data would help the challenge winners boost the reliability and convenience of multi-modal public transport and make daily commutes smoother. She had said, "We look forward to seeing these solutions in action, creating a more connected and digitally accessible transport network attracting a new generation of commuters to the bus."

On-boarding data

The tech foundation is now set to build a robust ecosystem where commuters could fully switch to public transport one day. But how soon this can happen will depend on how effectively the data from the bus and Metro agencies are onboarded into the start-ups' platforms, notes Dr. Ashish Verma, Convenor, Indian Institute of Science Sustainable Transportation (IST) Lab. To scale up, "The start-ups should ensure baseline conditions, such as operational and physical integration of the first and last-mile modes with the terminal buildings of the public transport agencies," he says. "These need to improve in parallel for this Mobility as a Service (MoS) platform to work effectively. But it is a step in the right direction."

Crowd-tracking

Authenticated, real data enables live-tracking of a BMTC bus, and this could be a huge benefit for someone waiting at a stop or planning an extended journey. But what if the bus is too crowded to board? A Tummoc official says with ticketing data, it will be possible to pinpoint how many people are in the bus at a given time and location.

"As a commuter, if I am heading from Kalyannagar to HSR Layout, I fill in the source and destination. Tummoc will then provide the fastest and cheapest options. You can also check for an auto rickshaw, cab or bike, and if a bus and the Metro are going in that direction and combine all of it. You can then choose among the fastest and cheapest options," the official explains. Live-tracking and crowd-tracking will add a new dimension, hitherto not possible without GTFS.

Crowd-tracking, in particular, could make a huge difference since the peak-hour rush has reached unsustainable levels on the Namma Metro. Commuters are forced to bypass two to three trains before getting a foothold, a common scene now at the Majestic interchange station. Facing a severe shortage of coaches due to delayed delivery schedules, BMRCL has cut down on the frequency.

Tickets-based tracking

So, how can open data help smoothen the commute experience here? "We currently have data on the Namma Metro routes and schedules. People scan their tickets every time they enter the platform. Once we get into a ticket-booking arrangement with BMRCL, it would then give us an idea for crowd-tracking," says the official. Commuters can then use this information to take a less crowded train at a time of their choosing.

But there is a challenge. While GTFS opens up the data on bus and Metro schedules and ticketing, reliability of shared mobility options such as cabs and auto rickshaws could get tricky. Thousands of commuters are often left scrambling for other alternatives daily when auto / cab drivers cancel their rides. Predictability and reliability of 'Mobility as a Service,' inevitably, takes a nosedive.

'Cancelled ride'

To tide over this challenge, journey planning apps are expanding the base of their first mile and last mile partnerships.

"We currently have Rapido and QuickRide as partners. The more partners we bring in, the easier it gets for commuters to get rides. We have regular calls and feedback from our partners. On-boarding more partners will mean if one fails, there are other options to choose from," says a Tummoc spokesperson.

For Ravishankar S., a tech professional based in Sahakarnagar, the commute woes are a daily affair.

But it gets even more frustrating when his daughter takes over two hours to get home, after arriving at Kengeri by bus from Mysuru. "She takes the Metro at Kengeri, changes line at Majestic to reach Goraguntepalya station. Auto drivers who disable their apps at the station charge ₹250 for a 10-km ride after much haggling.

Sometimes, she takes a bus but waits over half an hour," he explains.

He is convinced that connectivity apps that ensure end-to-end trip reliability could work, but is not sure about auto drivers adhering to the schedule and price. "Integrating autos will be a challenge, but if they can manage that it would be fantastic. Today, they charge about ₹100 for a 1.5 to 2 km distance from Bhadrappa Layout to Sahakarnagar," says Ravishankar, echoing the daily commute concerns of lakhs of Bengalureans.

Talking about climate change by merging art and science

The Center for Study of Science, Technology, and Policy has developed the eARTh Fellowship. The results of the first batch were showcased at BIC

Ipsita Misra
BENGALURU

(From left) Yadhunandan N., Vasu Dixit, Surekha, Mamta Sagar, Shawn Sebastian, Kavya Kottary, Jyothika Byju, and Rishabh Shetty.

Artwork by Yadhunandan N.

In October last year, the Center for Study of Science, Technology, and Policy (CSTEP), based out of Bengaluru, developed the eARTh Fellowship, an initiative to communicate to the public about climate change by merging art and science. The results of the first fellowship were showcased recently at Bangalore International Centre (BIC) in an exhibition hosted by the four selected fellows, consisting of audio-visual aids, paintings, sculptures, animation, poems and interactive events.

The nine-month-long fellowship offers a space for artists to make art about climate change, with the guidance of acclaimed artists such as Mamta Sagar, a poet; Vasu Dixit, a singer; Shawn Sebastian, a filmmaker, and Surekha, a visual artist as mentors. "In the first batch, four fellows were selected out of around 40 applicants, who had to pitch an idea about how they would like to communicate climate change to the public," explained Shawn Sebastian.

"What I have observed is that in the last nine months, the fellows have pushed themselves a lot," said Vasu Dixit during a panel discussion. "CSTEP has brought a sensitivity into our psyche through this initiative. Art has the power to hold down the sensitivity of the problem and communicate it in a way that it does not remain just another fact or number," he says, a perspective Dr. Jai Asundi, executive director of CSTEP, echoed in a post-event interview. "Artists sometimes come up with ways to at least start the conversation about climate change, even if they don't end up in solutions."

Relatable to common man

According to Sreerekha Pillai, Head of Communication and Policy Engagement at CSTEP and one of the people behind the ideation of the eARTh fellowship, science does not connect to the public as art does. "Our idea is to make science relatable to the common man," stated Sreelekha Pillai, Head of Communication and Policy Engagement at CSTEP and one of the people behind the ideation of the eARTh fellowship. "We had online classes in the initial months and took students for field visits around Bengaluru in the later months, to Jakkur Lake, Bellandur Lake, and a 400-year-old banyan tree in Kengeri," she explained about the fellowship.

The event started with engaging performances by Slam Out Loud, then a launch of Arth, a coffee-table book curated by CSTEP, then screenings of videos recorded by climate change survivors facilitated by Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), then eARTh reflections by mentors and fellows, and concluded with an energetic performance by Vasu Dixit Collective.

CSTEP is looking to engage with schools all around Bangalore and Karnataka for this initiative, and there are likely to be more fellows accepted into the programme from the next batch. Shawn Sebastian pointed out that artists often do not have the resources required to create art, but CSTEP's initiative is helping with that. "This fellowship has helped artists with information, space to create art, and with finances."

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 25, 1974

Giri to Launch Campaign to Check Prices

Bangalore, Sept. 24. Mr. V. V. Giri, the former President said here today that a constructive non-political campaign for maintaining the city clean and for organising an efficient public distribution system and price control would be inaugurated in the city on October 2 (Gandhi Jayanti Day).

He, however, warned that any violent methods would defeat the very objective behind this purely social work. "We will succeed in putting the distribution system in order by persuasion and moral pressure and by reporting any lapses to the Government for immediate action", he said.

Rs. 1.95-Crore Plan to Improve Primary Education in State

Bangalore, Sept. 24. Mr. M. C. Muniswamy, Additional Director of Public Instruction (Primary Education) told newsmen here to-day that a Rs. 1.95 crore plan had been drawn up to improve primary education in the State this year. The highlights of the plan, he said, were introduction of attendance scholarship for girls and a provision of Rs. 32.4 lakhs had been made for this. The girls would be given uniforms as an incentive, and it was proposed to cover 40 per cent of the girls studying in the primary schools. A provision of Rs. 17.75 lakhs had been made for the study of text-books to children belonging to the weaker sections.

Gracing a sparkling milestone

Vocalist RK Padmanabha is a man of many talents. As he turns 75 this week, we take a look at his achievements from over the years...

Ranjani Govind

Musical heritage Vocalist RK Padmanabha receiving the national award from President Murmu. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Stepping into RK Padmanabha's home is akin to entering a museum for music. Books, albums, instruments and sound systems share space with photos and awards the maestro has received over the years. "I wanted a sacred space to savour music. My practice sessions and bonding with students happens here with the blessings of Maa Saraswati," says the Carnatic vocalist.

A Sangeet Natak Akademi awardee, Padmanabha or RKP as he is affectionately known in music circles, turns 75 this week. His enviable range defies his age and at smaller concert venues, he rarely uses a mic, say senior students who travel with him.

Soul call

Born in 1949, it has been 70 years since RKP began singing. "I was born in Rudrapatna, a small village on the banks of River Cauvery in the Arkalgud taluk of Hassan district in Karnataka; it holds the record of producing the most Carnatic musicians in the country. I was not born into a musical family, but Rudrapatna's soil and air permeate musical tarangas (waves) that birthed melody in me," he says.

By the time he was five, RKP says he had already heard the top musicians of the time at Ranga-Geete (music theatre). He credits his deep range to this initial exposure where open throated singing was encouraged. "I even took up enacting Karna's role when I had to sing Kumara Vyasa's poems during training sessions under the iconic Gamaki, Vasantha Lakshamma," he recalls.

He goes on to explain how scholar-veteran RV Srikantaiah, a genius, would enthrall connoisseurs with vintage Carnatic classical melodies informally on the streets of Rudrapatna.

Veterans of classical music who visited Rudrapatna during music festivals, sang in temples, at 100-pillared massive bungalows, and on the banks of the Cauvery. "It was customary to have concerts at every celebration. I was mesmerised by music vidwans, their silk clothes and their body language while they sang. As a six-year-old, I remember waiting for hours to steal a glimpse of Violin Chowdiah – I was in awe of his personality and musical aura," says RKP, who pursued his higher studies in academics and music, in Mysore.

He eventually enrolled at Violin Chowdiah's Ayyanar College of Music in Mysore, to begin his formal training in Carnatic music. As a teenager, RKP made his way to Bengaluru and completed his B.Sc from Vijaya College. He represented Karnataka in Ball Badminton and soon bagged a job at SBI.

However, he encountered veteran HV Krishnamurthy at the Vijaya College of Music in 1974, and that marked his return to music. "It seemed magical. Thanks to HVK's Intense training I had my first concert in 1975."

Multi-faceted persona

Apart from being a musician, lyricist and composer, Padmanabhan is also an author, teacher and director. With 75 written works to his credit, he has directed several musicals, trained thousands of students across the globe and has acted in musical theatre too. Still at 75, he says, "I have a lot to do, and want to see Bengaluru abuzz with classical melodies. An important part of my spreading awareness is on maintaining *shaarira samskarana* (voice-culture) – an aspect paramount for musicians."

He sees my eyes wander to the notes on his table and says after he worked on 'Vadiraja's Teertha Prabhanda' where he documented the lesser-known aspects of the saint-composer's visits to the 10 sacred rivers in India, he was inspired to write on the saints Shankara-Ramanuja-Madhwa. "Vadirajaswamy blessed me with my pen and voice. I wanted to give back to society so I built the Vadiraja Kala Bhavana near Hulimavu, to host musical events."

RKP's written works include five music-based novels as well as 750 compositions in Kannada, Sanskrit and Telugu. "I have composed *Navagraha kritis* in Kannada and set them to music, apart from 72 compositions in all the *Melakarta ragas* in Kannada," he says.

With regard to his writings, RKP says it was gratifying to research the book, *Purandara Pitamahare,* where he sheds light on the greatness of Purandara dasa while dissecting his contemplative genius.

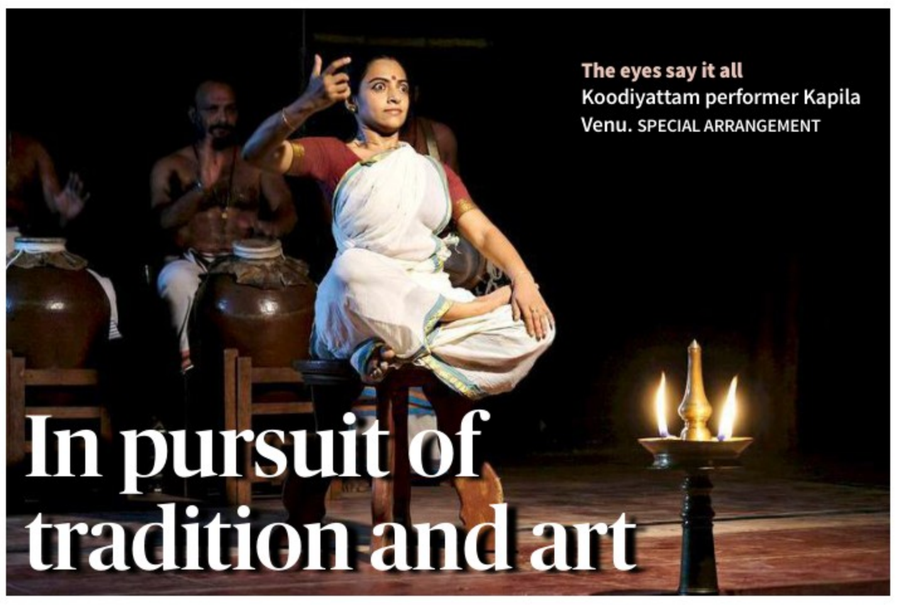
"Did you know why Purandara dasa might have preferred Mayamalavagowla for initial lessons to Karaharapriya? Karaharapriya, a musical scale in vogue decades ago, has high frequency levels for *swara prayogas* and oscillations. What made Mayamalavagowla special was its flat notes, making it ideal for beginners. As a true Pitamaha, Purandara had the foresight to offer basic Carnatic lessons in Mayamalavagowla."

Good governance

His musical ventures aside, RKP also holds other important offices. As the Managing Trustee of Rudrapatna Sangeetotsava Samiti Trust, he is responsible for the Sangeeta Grama, an annual Sangeethotsava, now in its 22nd year. RKP is also overseeing the building of a Saptaswara Temple at Rudrapatna, themed around the seven musical notes with a 70-feet tambura on the exterior.

For the past 20 years, he has been president of the Karnataka Ganakala Parishat, a sabha that promotes the musicians of Karnataka. RKP says the Parishat's activities reaches rural pockets in all the districts and towns with performances, schooling and workshops to bring an awareness of classical music to all.

RKP will be felicitated at Purandara Mantapa, ISRO layout on September 29, at 6pm. Entry free.



The eyes say it all Koodiyattam performer Kapila Venu. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

In pursuit of tradition and art

Shilpa Anandraj

Kapila Venu, a Koodiyattam dancer will perform at Jagriti's annual classical music and dance festival, SwarTaal, which will be held in Bengaluru between September 27 and 29.

Kapila, who has been learning the form since she was a child, describes Koodiyattam as an ancient living theatre tradition. "It has a continuous unbroken lineage of about two millennia. "It evolved in Kerala with its repertoire consisting of the performance of Sanskrit plays."

Koodiyattam, Kapila says, has a highly developed technique of *abhinaya* and stage craft. "It is a stylised form and actors go through years of intense training to be able to embody this form."

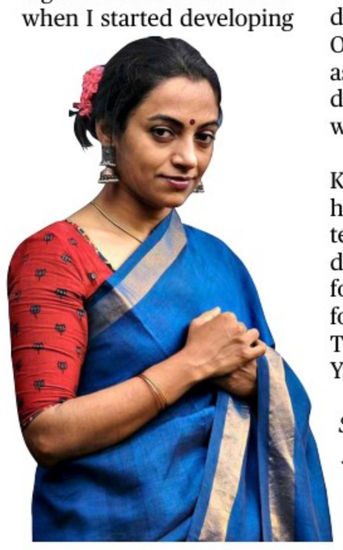
Kapila will present *Shaiva Koothu* for the festival and she will be accompanied by Kalamandalam Rajeev, Kalamandalam Hariharan and Kalanilayam Unnikrishnan. "Shaiva Koothu is a performance series based on the Tamizh saint, Thiru Karaikkal Ammaiyar's *Thiruvalangattu Mootha Thiruppadhikam*."

Ammaiyar, Kapila says over the phone from Kerala, was a remarkable female poet and devotee of Shiva who lived during the 6th Century CE in Tamil Nadu. "*Shaiva Koothu* is a vibrant and expressive Nangiar Koothu, which is a solo storytelling tradition of the female performers of Koodiyattam, which incorporates music, dance and storytelling."

It serves, Kapila says, as a means to portray the spiritual and mystical experiences of Thiru Karaikkal Ammaiyar and her deep devotion to Shiva. "The songs and verses sung during *Shaiva Koothu* are in Tamizh."

Feeling a strong connection to Tamil growing up in Tamil Nadu, Kapila says, "A decade ago I was introduced to the poetry of Karaikkal Ammaiyar. I found her poetry to be potent with imagery, the type that could easily be narrated through Koodiyattam. I was drawn to the poetry and wanted to explore.

Aware of the convention of using only Sanskrit text, Kapila says, "I was aware that if the text was translated to Sanskrit, it would lose it essence. Finally two years ago, I had the opportunity to perform something new in Mumbai. That is when I started developing Karaikkal Ammaiyar's poetry into Koodiyattam."



Kapila took to Koodiyattam easily as her father, G Venu, is a practitioner of the form. "My mother, Nirmala Paniker, is a practitioner of Mohiniattam and is also researching female performing traditions of Kerala. I was naturally introduced to the world of performing arts and though I learnt the art since I was a child, it was only much later that I realised that this is what I wanted to pursue for life."

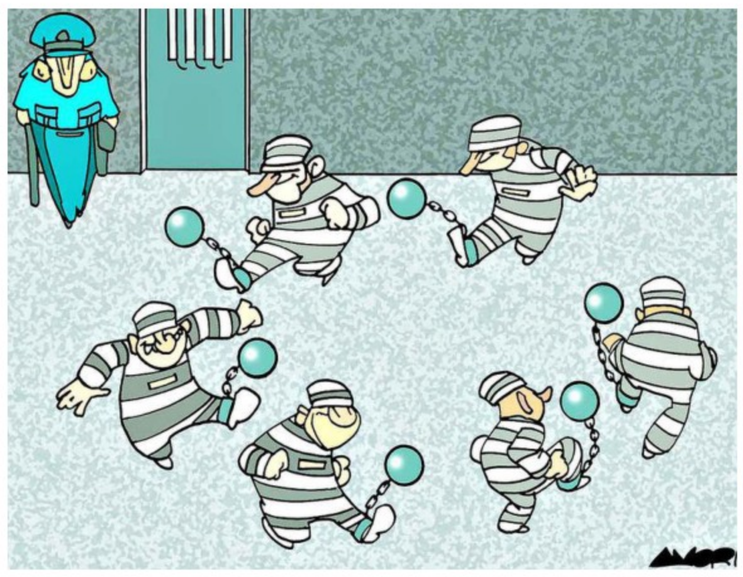
Bengaluru rarely sees Kathakali or Koodiyattam performances or even dance schools that specialise in these forms, unlike Odissi or Kathak. "This is not the case with Mohiniattam, which is popular in Bengaluru with many learning and teaching the form. "Koodiyattam and Kathakali are both theatre traditions, which only work in an ensemble production unlike Kathak or Odissi, where you can train as a solo performer and dance irrespective of where you are."

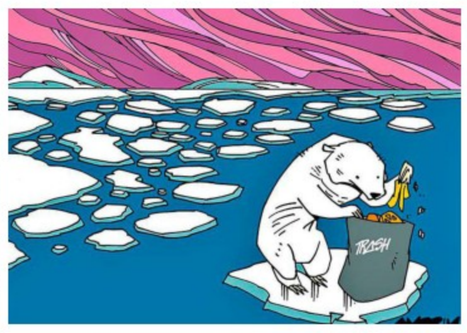
With Koodiyattam and Kathakali, Kapila says, you have to exist in an ecosystem with fellow artistes to develop this form. "These forms cannot be performed to recorded music. The same goes for Yakshagana."

Kapila will perform on September 27, 7.30pm at Jagriti Theatre. Open to anyone aged eight years and above. Tickets on BookMyShow

Sketching our world as we know it

Ruth Dhanaraj





Worth a 1000 words Sketches by Brazilian cartoonist Carlos Amorim. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Riveting. Amusing. Hard hitting. Carlos Amorim's works knock you sideways with the enormity of the reality they depict, making you wonder why you could not see what has always been there.

Born in 1964, Brazilian Amorim was publishing his cartoons and caricatures in regional newspapers and journals, by the time he had turned 20. In a career spanning four decades, his works have been lauded across the globe and have won him awards from all over.

However, this is first time Carlos is having a show in India, courtesy the Indian Institute of Cartoonists which is displaying as many as 60 of his works. Executed in clean lines and vivid colours, each piece either provokes thought or some urgent soul searching to ascertain individual traces of guilt.

Over email, Carlos says the sketches on display have been handpicked from his works created over the years. While not all of his works (at least the ones on display here) are overtly political, they do make a statement about our life and times.

Traffic woes, lifestyle choices, board room shenanigans, social niceties, censorship and even pop culture are grist to his mill. However, it is obvious manmade ecological disasters are one of his pet peeves.

Doomsday scenarios that force you to acknowledge, if only to yourself, that they may not be too far away in the future, are a recurring constant.

Carlos says he never needs to look too far for inspiration. "The endless desire of human beings, with their arrogance of thinking they are capable of being perfect," provides enough and more raw material for him to work with, he says.

Even the briefest of glances at his work show how the human race so easily lends itself to being lampooned. Whether it is a lonely polar bear rummaging for trash on a tiny ice floe or Don Quixote facing a windmill in a job interview or a single dove braving a platoon of tanks, Carlos pulls no punches.

The artist who says his first drafts are usually on any scrap of paper that come to hand, uses a regular pencil to sketch the final idea on a sheet of plain A4 paper.

"Marking characters, movements and balloons defined in space, I use a pen and ink to outline the drawing. Once that is done, I erase the penciled work and touch up the illustration with white paint (gouache) and scan it to finish everything with colour and a few more touches in Photoshop."

Whatever Carlos' methods, the final results not only offer a paranomic view of the human race, but also a glimpse of an artist's gaze and his tongue-in-cheek wit.

Amorim, an exhibition of cartoons by Brazilian artist Carlos Amorim, will be on display at the Indian Institute of Cartoonists till September 28. Entry free.

CITYBEATS

Learning curve

SEPTEMBER 29

Gear up for an upcoming Madhubani art workshop in the city led by Trishna Patnaik. At the workshop, one will learn all about Madhubani and get to create your own art work with acrylic colours on cartridge sheets that you can take away. The registration charge of ₹2000, is inclusive of all material. *At Atta Galatta, Indiranagar, 4.30pm. Call 9867982075 for details.*

Regal stories

SEPTEMBER 28, 29

Attend a story telling session – Ranis of India – by Vikram Sridhar. This is a collection of stories from various oral, folk, mythical and historical narratives, collected based on Vikram's travel and research. The session will include folk songs, stories of Indian queens from myths, history and present times. *Atta Galatta, Indiranagar, 8pm. Tickets on BookMyShow.*

Punch of Punjab

ONGOING

Ishaara is hosting a Punjabi food festival called Undivided Punjab, which will be on till September 30. The menu, presented in collaboration with chef Sherry Mehta, includes dishes like chapli kebabs, Lahori sajji, quetta rosh Ludhiana safed murgh, sarson da saag, makki di roti, and more. *Ishaara, at Phoenix Mall of Asia. Call 636034485 / 642478792 for details.*

Actor-MLA Mukesh arrested in rape case, released on bail

The CPI(M) legislator was interrogated by SIT in a case filed by police based on a woman actor's complaint; a lower court had earlier granted him anticipatory bail and asked him to cooperate

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The Special Investigation Team (SIT), probing the complaints against Malayalam film industry personalities in the wake of the Hema Committee report, recorded the arrest of actor-legislator M. Mukesh on Tuesday in a rape case registered against him by the Kochi City Police.

Mr. Mukesh turned up at the Coastal Police headquarters in Kochi, where the SIT team led by Additional Inspector-General G. Poonkuzhali interrogated him for over three hours before recording his arrest. He was released after a medical examination as a lower court in the city had earlier granted him anticipatory bail.

Actor and CPI(M) MLA M. Mukesh was arrested after interrogation by the SIT in a sexual assault case. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

He declined to speak to presspersons when he turned up for the interrogation or later when he was being taken for the medical examination.

Mr. Mukesh, a CPI(M) MLA, was interrogated by the SIT in a case registered by the Maradu Police.

The court had granted him anticipatory bail in the case with the condition that he should cooperate with the investigation team and that in the event of an arrest, he be let off after recording it.

Mr. Mukesh was among the first from the Malayalam film industry to be booked in the wake of revelations by women actors following the release of the Hema Committee report.

An actor had complained that Mr. Mukesh had raped her and outraged her modesty a few years ago. The Maradu Police had booked the actor following the complaint.

Kerala HC denies anticipatory bail to actor Siddique

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

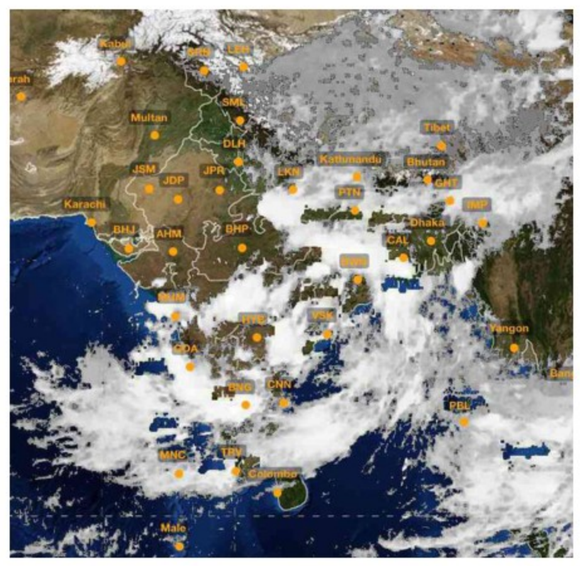
The Kerala High Court on Tuesday dismissed an anticipatory bail petition filed by Malayalam actor Siddique in a case relating to sexual assault on a woman actor. He has been charged with offences under Sections 376 (rape) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of the IPC on a complaint by the woman actor.

Justice C.S. Dias observed that on overall scrutiny of the facts, the law on the point, and the nature, gravity and seriousness of the accusations alleged against the actor, coupled with the materials placed on record *prima facie* shows his involvement in the crime, the petitioner's custodial interrogation is inevitable for the proper investigation into the crime, especially since his defence is a total denial of the incident.

The court also pointed out that a potency test of the petitioner is to be conducted, and there is an apprehension by the prosecution that the petitioner may intimidate witnesses and tamper with the evidence. It concluded that this is not a fit case to exercise the discretionary powers in favour of the petitioner. Dismissing the contention that the woman actor's complaint lacks credibility, it observed that the submission is "unwarranted and reflects an uncharitable view of the survivor's circumstances".

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	9	34.0	24.8	Kozhikode	19	30.8	23.4
Ahmedabad	—	37.6	28.0	Kurnool	57	31.9	24.3
Aizawl	—	36.2	24.6	Lucknow	—	37.0	27.5
Allahabad	—	37.5	28.2	Madurai	—	40.6	27.1
Bengaluru	2	28.7	21.6	Mangaluru	41	26.8	23.4
Bhopal	—	34.4	24.8	Mumbai	75	29.9	24.4
Bhubaneswar	1	30.2	25.4	Mysuru	—	28.0	20.0
Chandigarh	—	37.3	27.0	New Delhi	—	37.4	26.4
Chennai	46	34.9	24.6	Patna	—	35.5	27.4
Coimbatore	—	32.0	21.8	Port Blair	—	31.0	25.2
Dehradun	—	35.6	24.0	Puducherry	—	36.0	26.4
Gangtok	6	24.5	17.9	Pune	22	31.0	22.1
Goa	20	26.3	25.4	Raipur	15	31.0	23.0
Guwahati	0.6	35.6	26.0	Ranchi	15	29.9	22.1
Hubballi	—	28.0	23.0	Shillong	14	27.0	18.2
Hyderabad	15	30.9	23.7	Shimla	—	29.0	20.4
Imphal	8	30.9	21.5	Srinagar	—	33.6	16.8
Jaipur	—	35.9	26.7	Thiruvananthapuram	2	31.0	24.8
Kochi	4	31.0	24.4	Tiruchi	—	38.7	27.4
Kohima	—	30.0	19.0	Vijayawada	—	33.3	26.8
Kolkata	2	32.2	28.0	Visakhapatnam	—	32.5	27.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.10	..14	28	 78	94	
Bengaluru	.26	..—	25	 88	81	
Chennai	...6	..30	82	 51	47	
Delhi	.16	..12	43	... 279	...264	
Hyderabad	.30	..58	33	 50	62	
Kolkata	...5	..39	43	 27	42	
Lucknow	.10	..10	42	... 185	96	
Mumbai	.25	..27	32	 35	57	
Pune	...3	..41	26	 57	...102	
Visakhapatnam	...7	..28	22	 76	80	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 265 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 17

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

NIA searches 11 locations in T.N.

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Sleuths of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Tuesday searched multiple locations across Tamil Nadu in connection with a case pertaining to the Hizb-ut-Tahrir organisation, which allegedly promoted an anti-election campaign as part of a "divisive conspiracy" to establish Islamic rule in the country.

Teams of NIA personnel searched the houses of 11 suspects in Chennai, Tambaram and Kanniyakumari, and seized incriminating materials -- digital devices, unaccounted cash, and literature belonging to the Hizb-ut-Tahrir. The case pertains to causing and creating disaffection through social media handles, and campaigning against voting. The Hizb-ut-Tahrir has allegedly engaged in instigating its followers to overthrow the lawfully established democratic government through divisive actions.

Panchamirtham row: director held, gets bail

The Hindu Bureau
TIRUCHI/CHENNAI

Tamil film director Mohan G. was on Tuesday arrested in Chennai by a Tiruchi special police team on charges of making controversial remarks about the *panchamirtham* served in the famous Arulmigu Dhandayuthapani Swamy Temple at Palani.

In the evening, a jurisdictional magistrate released him on own bail.

YouTube interview

Against the backdrop of the ongoing controversy over alleged adulteration of ghee used in the Tirupati laddu, the director had, in an interview to a YouTube channel, alleged that the *panchamirtham* was being reportedly laced with contraceptive pills.

Complaint

The Samayapuram police in Tiruchi district had registered a case against him on a complaint from Kaviarasu, a manager of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department at the Arulmigu Mariamman Temple at Samayapuram.

A press release issued by the Tiruchi Rural Police on Tuesday evening said Mr. Kaviarasu had said in his complaint that he had watched a YouTube channel in which Mr. Mohan had made "untrue" remarks that the *panchamirtham*, given as *prasadam* to the devotees at the Palani temple, was prepared with contraceptive pills. He had sought action against Mr. Mohan for spreading such false information that could spoil communal harmony and instigate violence.

Mohan had claimed that news about the adulterated *panchamirtham* was suppressed and "I heard, the consignment was destroyed". Such an act amounted to mixing poison, he said, adding people manning such institutions should ensure there were no shortcomings in the preparation.

On Tuesday morning, Mohan was picked up at his residence at Kasimedu in Chennai. He was produced at the Judicial Magistrate Court-III in Tiruchi in the evening. The court released Mohan on own bail, police sources said.

INBRIEF

FSSAI to test samples of *prasadam* in temples in A.P.

Following the controversy over the reported use of adulterated ghee in making laddu *prasadam* at the Lord Venkateswara temple at Tirumala, officials of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India will collect samples from across the State to check the quality of the *prasadams* being offered in various temples. Teams of FSSAI will examine the quality of the ingredients being used for preparing *prasadams*, details of the suppliers, and stocks being maintained. Temples where the managements were distributing *prasadams* to devotees would be covered in the drive, officials said.

A.P. couple sentenced to life imprisonment in POCSO case

A POCSO court awarded imprisonment till death to Putta Satish Pavan Kumar, 42, and his wife P. Vijayalakshmi Phani Rupa, 38, of Eluru district, Andhra Pradesh, for raping two minor girls. Satish Kumar, a taxi driver, impregnated his two stepdaughters with the help of Phani Rupa. Following a complaint, the Eluru Mahila Police registered a case on July 12, 2023. Three other accused in the case, who tried to hush up the crime and gave false birth certificate to the infant born to one of the victims, were convicted for two years. The court directed to pay ₹10 lakh compensation each to the victims, police said.

Third Rajya Sabha member from YSR Congress resigns

YSR Congress Party MP Ryaga Krishnaiah on Tuesday resigned from the Rajya Sabha. He is the third Rajya Sabha MP from the party to resign. His resignation comes as an exodus of YSR Congress Party MPs from the Upper House continues. Earlier, M. Venkataramana Rao and Beedha Mastan Rao Yadav had tendered their resignation. With this resignation, the strength of the party has been reduced to eight.

Against the tide

Tough times: Fishermen returning home from sea at Kovalam in Thiruvananthapuram on Tuesday. Despite the post-monsoon period being a favourable time, fishermen find it difficult to have a good catch. NIRMAL HARINDRAN

67 students flee A.P. govt. school hostel due to 'harassment'

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

Frustrated by alleged harassment by teachers and complaining of poor quality of food served to them, as many as 67 students from the hostel attached to the government social welfare school at Vankayalapadu village in Palnadu district of Andhra Pradesh, fled their school campus by jumping over the compound wall.

Some of the teachers, who noticed the students running away, informed the police, who helped bring back 32 of them, while 35 others were said to have gone towards Kondaveedu Fort area. They were later brought back to the school.

Narsaraopet DSP K. Nageswara Rao interacted with the students and asked them the reason for resorting to such an act. The students alleged harassment by some of the teachers and said that they were made to clean the bathrooms. They said the food served to them was substandard and also accused the authorities of collecting money from them on some pretext.

The students said they were overburdened with academic work and exams were conducted without any gap.

Kerala smuggler-turned-forest protector bags award

Sandeep Vellaram
IDUKKI

A poacher-turned-forest protector in the Periyar Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Thekkady, Kerala, has bagged the prestigious Cricketers for Wildlife Conservation Service Award.

Sabu Varghese, also known as Kunjumon, a member of the Ex-Vayana Bark Collectors Eco Development Committee (EDC) in Thekkady, has received the award in recognition of his inspiring transformation. Mr. Kunjumon, once involved in smuggling Vayana bark (the bark of cinnamon trees), has now dedicated his life to conserving the very forest he once exploited.

Sabu Varghese, aka Kunjumon, a member of the Ex-Vayana Bark Collectors Eco Development Committee. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Mr. Sabu was part of a group that illegally harvested Vayana bark from the PTR and sold it in Tamil Nadu. "In 1996, Sabu, along with 23 other Vayana collectors, stopped such illegal practices and became associated with forest protection," said a Forest Department official.

Livelihood issues

The smuggling gang used to earn a substantial income by smuggling forest produce such as sandalwood. Once they renounced the illicit activities, the need to provide them with a sustainable livelihood arose.

This led to the creation of Periyar Tiger Trail, an ecotourism initiative that soon became a national model. The programme provided former smugglers with a legitimate income and brought them social acceptance.

Sabu has been instrumental in leading anti-poaching efforts in the Periyar Tiger Reserve. He was a member of the Cheetah Squad, which apprehended sandalwood smugglers from Tamil Nadu.

His efforts also extended to helping smugglers reintegrate into society through the 'Vidiyal' ecotourism programme, providing livelihoods for 17 former smugglers.

Benefits abound

Reflecting on his past, Mr. Sabu said, "Joining the EDC changed everything. We gained social acceptance and it transformed the lives of my children too, who are now receiving a better education and opportunities."

Mr. Sabu was presented the Wildlife Service Award at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on Saturday.

Former Indian cricketer Gundappa Vishwanath presented him with the award, which included a cash prize of ₹1 lakh and a memento.

Cricketers' role

The award, established by the Cricketers for Wildlife Conservation, aims at recognising the unsung heroes of forest conservation.

The initiative was conceptualised by former Indian cricketers Sandeep Patil, Yusuf Pathan, and Harbhajan Singh to motivate the foot soldiers protecting India's forests. M.N. Jayachandran, an environmentalist from Idukki, bagged the award in the Wildlife Crusader category.

LIC told to pay ₹2 lakh to son of deceased woman

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

A district consumer commission directed the LIC of India to pay ₹2 lakh to the son of a deceased policyholder, after finding evidence of deficiency in service. It found that the LIC could not prove that the policyholder had concealed information regarding her health condition.

The District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Mahabubnagar, was dealing with a complaint filed by Chakali Nagaraju. The opposite parties were Senior Branch Manager, Senior Divisional Manager and Zonal Manager, LIC.

Visit wrap-up

The Modi U.S. visit announcements will see New Delhi being put to the test

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's three-day visit to the U.S was marked by high-level meetings that had a three-part focus. He spent one day at the Quad and in bilateral meetings with U.S. President Joseph Biden, a day in New York with business leaders and the diaspora, and another day at the UN and in bilateral meetings. The Quad Summit, delayed due to political cycles in the four member countries, was more substantive than expected for a farewell meeting (Mr. Biden and Japan's Fumio Kishida will soon demit office). The joint statement was noted for its sharp language on Chinese aggression in the South China Sea, as well as on Russia's invasion of Ukraine, where the leaders upheld the UN charter on sovereignty and territorial integrity. The announcement of initiatives aimed at countering Chinese actions will no doubt raise Beijing's ire: a "Quad-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission" for 2025, a Maritime Initiative for Training in the Indo-Pacific (MAITRI) and a "maritime legal dialogue" to support the "rules-based order". However, India's hesitation in joining other Quad militaries in contested waters in the Pacific Ocean remains, and India's presidency of the Quad next year will show whether those are overcome. Quad countries also committed to a "Cancer Moonshot" to fight cancer, an initiative that can draw lessons from the troubled Quad vaccine initiative. India and the U.S. were able to announce progress on many strategic fronts including a military partnership for semiconductor fabrication and India acquiring predator drones. However, the ties faced unspoken tensions over the lingering effect of the Pannun case, including summons issued for NSA Ajit Doval in a civil suit and a White House meeting with Sikh activists who have campaigned against India – all before Mr. Modi's arrival. The message from Washington appears to be that the Pannun case cannot be overlooked.

Mr. Modi's message at the UN as well as in bilateral meetings with leaders including Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy was watched closely given recent moves hinting at India's involvement in a peace process. While Mr. Modi gave no further indication of such a plan, his discussions with Mr. Zelenskyy centred around a possible second peace summit. At a diaspora event, Mr. Modi said that India is now a "strong voice" of the Global South, and was taking up the concerns of the developing world on the conflict with the global leadership. At the UN "Summit of the Future", he added that the success of humanity would depend on its "collective strength, not in the battlefield". The next few months will see New Delhi tested not only on those lofty ideals and ambition for peace but also on actualising the many announcements made during the visit.

It is an offence

Court has done well to clarify law on online content showing child sex abuse

The Supreme Court of India's clear delineation of the penal consequences of accessing or storing sexual material concerning children is in complete consonance with the letter and spirit of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. Demonstrating an enlightened approach to the social questions that arise from the proliferation of online content featuring sexual exploitation of children, a three-Judge Bench has not only clarified the law but also drawn pointed attention to the legislative intent of presuming the culpable mental state of a person accessing and viewing such material. The Court has also advocated that the term 'child pornography' be avoided in both the law and in court verdicts, as it appears to trivialise the enormity of the offence of exploiting children to create and disseminate sexual material to gratify the perversions of a few. Instead, the Court has suggested that such content be described as 'Child Sexual Exploitative and Abuse Material' (CSEAM). The verdict also lays to rest doubts over what exactly some provisions of the Information Technology Act, 2000, and POCSO Act say on the subject, as High Court verdicts have differed on their exact implications. The case arose from a Madras High Court judgment that quashed a criminal case against an individual who had viewed sexual content involving children on the ground that the law only criminalised creating and disseminating such content, and not merely watching it in the private domain. The apex court has now set aside the High Court order.

Invoking the doctrine of "constructive possession", it has ruled that any act of viewing or displaying of child pornographic material over the Internet without actual possession or storage in any device would also amount to "possession", made punishable under Section 15 of POCSO, provided the person had a degree of control over such material. Further, an intent to share or transmit such material can also be inferred from any failure to delete, destroy or report such material. It has cautioned courts against narrow interpretation of some provisions so that the legislative intent of penalising cyber-offences relating to children is not defeated. It has drawn attention to Section 67B of the IT Act, terming it a "comprehensive provision" to penalise various electronic forms of exploitation and abuse of children online. The Court has reminded platforms and intermediaries of their duty to remove such content as well as report it to police units concerned. Its advice to the government to implement comprehensive sex education programmes that include the legal and ethical ramifications of child pornography merits immediate attention.

A break from the past, a new beginning in Sri Lanka

Jayadeva Uyangoda

Emeritus Professor of political science, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

The swearing-in of Anura Kumara Dissanayake as Sri Lanka's new elected President on September 23, 2024, marks a new beginning of historical significance. It symbolises a dramatic shift in the class bases of political power – from a privileged minority of Colombo-centric, westernised elites to a broad coalition of non-elite social forces. If Sri Lanka's electoral democracy since its independence in 1948 had guaranteed the dominant elites unbroken continuity in political power, it has now produced a break with the past; a moment of the magic that democracy and free and fair elections can occasionally produce.

Significantly, the election outcome also marks a peaceful and bloodless transfer of power. The new President obtained his popular mandate with the promise of overhauling a corrupt and rotten system of government that had remained the birth right of the privileged social classes for nearly seven decades. The class monopoly of political power that has been institutionalised through democracy has now been ruptured by the demos themselves.

Transition and political rise

The National People's Power (NPP), the political movement which Sri Lanka's new President leads, has a short but transformative history. It was formed in 2019 as an electoral front of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP-People's Liberation Front) with a moderate and centrist reform ideology. Mr. Dissanayake was the NPP's presidential candidate in that year. Until 2019, he was leading the JVP. The JVP had been formed in the 1960s, which was the period of the New Left throughout the world. The JVP emerged as a Left radical underground movement with a commitment to armed struggle to establish a South Asian version of revolutionary socialism. Parallel to similar radical movements in other parts of South Asia, the JVP's early ideology and political programme was influenced by Marxism and Maoism.

The JVP tried out two armed insurrections in 1971 and 1987-89. After the costly defeat in the last armed struggle, a new generation of JVP leaders, who abandoned the goal of socialism through the armed struggle, transformed the JVP into a parliamentary party. Mr. Dissanayake belongs to this new band of 'JVP-ers' committed at the time to the goal of socialism through electoral and parliamentary politics.

The JVP's transition to democratic politics did not bring much success in terms of parliamentary seats. In most instances, it remained a small opposition party. Its experiments with forming electoral alliances with the two main parties, the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) and United National Party (UNP), did not enable the JVP to secure its goal of being a 'third force' in Sri Lanka's dominant two-party system. The formation of a socially broad-based and ideologically non-dogmatic NPP in 2019 was the JVP leadership's response to this political deadlock it repeatedly encountered.

> The political space for Anura Kumara Dissanayake and the National People's Power also flows from the impact of the 2022 'Aragalaya' or the citizens' protest movement

Despite the NPP's participation in the presidential election in 2019 and parliamentary elections in 2020, it could secure only a little over 3% of votes and three parliamentary seats.

Catalysed by two developments

The NPP's rapid rise to become a major political force, weakening the traditional UNP and SLPP, and successfully making claims to be the new ruling party in 2024 is a direct outcome of two developments. The first is the economic crisis exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020. The second is the deep social and political crisis that exploded as the *Aragalaya* or the citizens' protest movement, of 2022.

Meanwhile, the management of the debt crisis since 2023 by the Sri Lankan government, by means of a harsh austerity programme as prescribed by the International Monetary Fund, created widespread social discontent and anger against the Ranil Wickremesinghe administration. People saw the new tax policies and the dismantling of the welfare programmes as policy measures that benefited the rich and the wealthy business classes while exacerbating the crisis of the economic survival of the poor and the middle classes.

Growing poverty, income inequalities and increasing social polarisation between the haves and have-nots have generated a clear shift in the people's political loyalties– away from the traditional elite parties. It is in this context that the NPP's reform proposals for a corruption-free and pro-poor government could secure a positive response in urban and rural electoral constituencies.

The political space for Mr. Dissanayake and the NPP to have emerged as a leading reformist political force so rapidly within two years had already been created by the *Aragalaya*. Its powerful slogan of 'system change' and the hopes it envisioned for a new generation of politicians, committed to eliminating corruption, cronyism and tyrannical government, fitted perfectly well with the NPP's agenda of reforming Sri Lanka's politics, political culture and practices of governance. Thus, Mr. Dissanayake's victory is a slightly delayed political outcome of the *Aragalaya*.

The NPP's rapid journey to become Sri Lanka's newest ruling party has also coincided with the consolidation of the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB-Unified People's Force) as the leading opposition party. The combined presence of the NPP and the SJB in Sri Lanka's parliamentary and electoral politics signals the onset of a major transformation of Sri Lanka's political party system as well. The UNP, SLFP and the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP), the three main political parties founded and managed by the political class of Sri Lankan elites, have been so weakened that they can remain only as small opposition parties.

Thus, the emerging frame of political polarisation in Sri Lanka appears to be between the NPP and SJB – the SJB filling the space for a right-wing party caused by the decline of the UNP as a mass party.

Getting down to business will not be easy

The new President will have a set of unusual challenges and tasks before him. Since he has only three Members of Parliament in Parliament, holding early parliamentary elections is a major imperative for the new President. To form his own government, the President is likely to form a caretaker cabinet. Headed by the President, the caretaker cabinet will have three other Ministers. The dissolution of Parliament is most likely to occur before or next week so that an election can be held ideally in late-November.

To consolidate his government, the new President will need a comfortable parliamentary majority, of over 113 MPs. The presidential election has clearly exposed a major lacunae in his electoral base. The NPP has a rather weak presence in the districts with sizeable Tamil and Muslim ethnic minorities. The fact that Mr. Dissanayake's victory has been ensured primarily by Sinhalese voters is an issue that demands early corrective action. Making the NPP ethnically pluralistic will enable the NPP government to be inclusivist of all of Sri Lanka's ethnic and cultural communities, while also securing a clear parliamentary majority.

Two other tasks will test the resolve and capacities of the new President and his government. The first is about repaying the external debt while taking the country's economy back to the path of rapid growth, this time with social justice and equity as normative social goals. This will call for a re-working of the austerity programme which the previous government has agreed with the IMF. This is the only way to prevent the recurrence of social discontent and protests by vast sections of the affected people.

The second is about purifying public life and the culture of governance. Mr. Dissanayake won the presidency on the strength of hopes he had generated for a corruption-free system of government. Eradicating corruption is easier said in an election campaign than actually done after the election because corruption is a highly institutionalised, internationalised and sophisticated vocation. Yet, the issue of corruption will be a crucial test of the new President's political success as well as his credibility.

What the people seem to expect from the new President is a new beginning that will lead to a 'genuine change' (*saba wenasak*, in Sinhala). At the presidential election, Sri Lanka's people took the first major step in that direction by effecting an unusually radical change in who governs. It is now up to President Dissanayake and his NPP government to prove that they – representatives of the non-elite social classes – are better rulers and better democrats with greater sensitivity to people's expectations for 'genuine change'.

The NCrF as a framework for well-rounded education

Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar

Chairman, University Grants Commission and a former Vice-Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Cognitive inconsistency and axiomatic irrationality become evident when a few put forth the view that the spirit behind and the structural reforms advocated by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 are unsuitable. The NEP is a vision document that provides a broad contour of how education can be transformed in India while getting away from the clutches of the colonial mindset. The National Credit Framework (NCrF) is one of several transformative reforms that are derived from the NEP, providing a flexible template for educational institutions offering school, higher, vocational, and skill education. Using the NCrF, higher education institutions (HEI) can give a unified accumulation and transfer of credits across multidisciplinary education, including skill education. The NCrF is an enabling framework rather than a regulatory one.

More flexibility for students

When HEIs adopt the NCrF, students can earn credits in various activities provided they undergo an assessment. The NCrF gives students the flexibility to earn credits from classroom teaching, laboratory work, Atal Tinkering Laboratories, research projects, assignments, tutorials, sports and games, yoga, the performing arts, music, handicrafts, social work, National Cadet Corps and National Service Scheme activities, vocational and skill education, minor and major projects, on-the-job training, internships, apprenticeships, and experiential learning. Providing flexibility and broad-based educational opportunities through the NCrF has unnerved some who are deeply rooted in the conventional ways of imparting higher education.

The position of those few who remain bafflingly immune to the dynamic and forward-looking nature of the NEP 2020 is inherently "problematic". Their dismissive attitude towards the curriculum changes based on the NCrF shows their unwillingness to understand India's societal, technological, and educational needs. This is precisely why India's higher education system should steadfastly remain dynamic and relevant to the country's needs to avoid the risk of becoming obsolete.

> The National Credit Framework (NCrF) aims to help higher education institutions balance vocational and skill training and knowledge-generating academic pursuits

In keeping with the inevitable rapid economic and technological changes, the NCrF aims to help institutions remain flexible and competitive. Keeping the current and future evolution of job requirements, there is only one solution – revise the curriculum so that it is in tune with the NCrF. HEIs should demonstrate their capacity to adapt to the evolving new situations by bridging the skill mismatch so that the career prospects of students are not hindered.

Any view that HEIs should remain the place for the sole purpose of training students only to become knowledge producers is an outdated and obstinate refusal to see the reality. In the modern world, HEIs, besides being havens of knowledge, must equip students with the skills and the competencies needed for emerging roles and self-employment. However, such a dual role is possible only when HEIs adopt the NCrF and allow students to pursue their academic and career goals.

Continuous adaptation is the key

Let us not promote an elitist brand of higher education by not supporting reforms in higher education; these reforms are necessary for the democratisation of education and social equity. HEIs must continuously adapt and reinvent themselves in response to changing circumstances. Having a few hinder efforts in transforming higher education in HEIs can lead to a stagnation and compromise the effectiveness of our institutions.

The NEP 2020 also advocates the multidisciplinary education and research university (MERU) concept. The focus of such HEIs would be to serve as nurseries for scholars and intellectuals. However, such universities should not be considered an end in itself, and many other HEIs should also focus on vocational and skill training to enhance the employability of students.

When students acquire practical skills and knowledge through a flexible curriculum – as envisaged in the NCrF – higher education will become a tool for students to increase their social mobility. Those opposing structural changes in higher education advocate fossilised pedagogical approaches that do not align with the new economic realities and social aspirations.

On vocational and skill training

Depending on the nature of HEIs, institutions can lay emphasis on vocational and skill training, focus on fundamental research, innovation, and intellectual pursuits, and ensure that knowledge production and skill training coexist as deeply interconnected processes. The bottomline is that those who acquire vocational and skill training can be as impactful as those who produce new knowledge. Therefore, there is no need to fallaciously overemphasise or deride one over the other as both are important.

The primary objective of the NCrF is to help HEIs balance vocational and skill training and knowledge-generating academic pursuits so that HEIs play a pivotal role in shaping individual futures and societal progress.

We must reimagine our higher education curricula by integrating flexibility and multidisciplinary and skill-based courses to transform India into an economic powerhouse and technological leader. Those who oppose this flexibility in higher education curricula and insist that universities should become elitist only show their unreasonable and outdated view.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Israeli strikes

Israel's attack on Lebanon, killing hundreds of innocents including women and children, is shocking. Tel Aviv seems emboldened by an indifferent world to unleash attacks on the pretext of self-defence. With the superpowers preferring to wait and watch, the UN is turning out to be practically ineffective.

K.S. Venkitachalam,
Kalpathy, Palakkad, Kerala

The leprosy fight

Leprosy, a long-lasting infectious disease, if not detected and treated early, leads to disability. It is still prevalent. But Jordan has become the first country globally to have eliminated leprosy — a momentous achievement that was confirmed by the World Health Organization on September 19, 2024. Jordan's success is the result of years of public health campaigns, early detection, free treatment and community education. Its achievement spells hope for the rest of the world to put an end to this stigmatised ancient affliction. India has to learn from Jordan even though it is free from this disease according to WHO criterion — less than one case per 10,000 population. But the existence of the disease in the population in small numbers is a public health challenge.

Dr. V. Purushothaman,
Chennai

Corrections & Clarifications

The ninth paragraph of a report, "A battling Bhui and Shreyas take India-D to a strong position" ('Sport' page, September 22, 2024) erroneously mentioned Saurabh Kumar to be an off spinner. He is a left arm orthodox spin bowler.

The Readers' Editor's office can be contacted by Telephone: +91-44-28418297/28576300; E-mail:readerseditor@thehindu.co.in

Navigating cross-border insolvency

The adoption of cross-border insolvency laws is vital to international trade. Integration of cross-border regimes into a nation's legal ecosystem is considered the hallmark of sound insolvency laws. Besides providing legal certainty, they also improve the health of trading entities with cross-border operations, thereby benefiting investments and international trade.

Amol Baxi

Visiting Fellow at Research and Information System for Developing Countries, New Delhi. Views are personal

Implementing the Model Law

The debate on implementing harmonised laws to deal with cross-border insolvency has, therefore, been active. Since the late 1990s, the UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) has endeavoured to implement its Model Law developed on four pillars (access, recognition, cooperation, and coordination) across nations. Its potential benefits have been recognised in several countries, including India, by the Bankruptcy Law Reform Committee while drafting the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016, as well as the Indian government (Economic Survey, 2022).

However, progress on the adoption of the Model Law has been slow. As per UNCITRAL, only 60 countries have adopted it. Further, there have been variations in its implementation (given its non-binding nature), with nations tailoring the same to their requirements by including reciprocity/public policy exceptions clauses.

India is also yet to adopt the Model Law despite several committee recommendations on the subject. As per reports, a decision on the same has been likely deferred again. The Union Budget, while in support of improving the IBC's efficiency through technology platforms/augmenting judicial infrastructure, was also silent on this issue. At present, India relies on limited provisions, which allow bilateral agreements on a case-by-case basis for cross-border insolvencies. These have been seen as ad hoc and inadequate.

In parallel, in the last few years, India has been executing Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), Comprehensive Economic Corporation Agreements (CECAs), Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreements (CEPAs) and their equivalents. As per the Commerce Ministry, India has signed such agreements with more than 54 countries. The Ministry describes FTAs as arrangements between countries to reduce or eliminate tariff /non-tariff barriers on substantial trade with the scope of covering areas such as intellectual property rights (IPRs) and investments. Similarly, CECAs/CEPAs are described as more integrated agreements on goods, services, and investments while including broader areas such as trade facilitation and cooperation. Therefore, examining how these agreements capture insolvency is relevant.

Insolvency provisions

However, despite growing FTAs/CEPAs and their importance to trade, they lack detailed cross-border insolvency provisions. While FTAs are relatively limited in scope, CEPAs /CECAs are said to be "more ambitious and look at deeper regulatory aspects of trade" (Commerce Ministry). However, in their present form, most contain only general disputes or trade remedy clauses. It can be argued that FTAs facilitate trade, which leads to calls for cross-border insolvency laws. However, such laws are a vital ingredient of international trade, and relevant clauses need integration in agreements, pending the adoption of any harmonised law.

As regards the Model Law, while well recognised, the ground-level verdict is not out on whether it is the optimum solution, easily implementable in countries with diverse economic/legal regimes. There have been alternate perspectives from some scholars, noting that international treaties, frameworks, and protocols can be tailor-made to address individual cases. These may be effective while complementing the existing system.

After signing four new FTAs (2021-2024), India is working on similar agreements with several nations (Economic Survey, 2024). Hence, pending adoption of Model Law, there is little reason why such FTAs cannot cover insolvency. There can be complementary integration of cross-border provisions in FTAs /equivalents. In their present form, these agreements capture disputes, IPRs, and even sustainability, but mostly ignore insolvency. If CECAs/CEPAs are conceptualised to capture deeper regulatory aspects, why can they not cover insolvency dimensions?

Interestingly, the vacuum is not found only in bilateral/regional agreements but even in some important World Trade Organization reports, which omit an explicit discussion of cross-border insolvency while discussing factors influencing the future of trade. Thus, there is a need to integrate perspectives on the importance of insolvency laws with global trade in multilateral or bilateral routes. Specifically, FTAs are incomplete without cross-border dimensions.

Therefore, there needs to be a more ingrained appreciation of the importance of sound insolvency laws for international trade. FTAs (and their equivalents) need to factor in appropriate mechanisms to weather the consequences of insolvency of trading entities. This would only strengthen the edifice of FTAs being signed by India. This may also form part of the government's agenda of framing SOPs for FTAs. While the practical feasibility of interlinking insolvency with FTAs is best assessed by the Commerce Ministry, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board, and legal experts, considering the reality of insolvency with cross-border ramifications, the sooner these issues are addressed, the greater the benefits to India's trade.

There is a need to integrate perspectives on the importance of insolvency laws with global trade in multilateral or bilateral routes

From optics to delivery

Making pre-poll guarantees is not enough; accountability is important

STATE OF PLAY

Sowmya Kidambi
Nikhil Dey

In recent Lok Sabha and Assembly elections, the Congress effectively used the language of 'guarantees' to emphasise delivery of its social sector promises. This perhaps pushed the BJP to offer promises saying they were 'Modi ki Guarantee'. Eventually, the use of this language of 'guarantees' boils down to the citizens' quest for effective delivery. In Telangana, the guarantee of transparency, effective delivery, and accountability has become a focus of attention of the State government and the people. It is clear that launching schemes and budget provisioning is only half the story.

In December 2023, the Congress won the Assembly elections in Telangana. It replaced the BRS, which had been in power for more than nine years. The BRS, which claims credit for giving birth to the State, lost for many reasons. The most glaring was the distance that had developed between the people and the administrators. This was symbolised by a lack of transparency, accountability, and the failure to develop grievance redress mechanisms.

The Congress gave confidence to the people that its government would be a people's government and that there would be 'praja palana' (people's rule). The optics of this were quickly achieved by renaming Pragati Bhavan, the camp office of the Chief Minister, which was previously seen as the symbol of unaccountable power, as Jyothirao Phule Praja Bhavan. It was opened to the public for the first time. As it rolled out the Praja Palana schemes, aided by desks to accept applications for its six pre-poll guarantees, and also promised to sort out grievances in a time-bound manner, the Congress government received immediate praise.

However, for any government to successfully implement its pre-poll promises, a robust, transparent, and effective mechanism of citizen monitoring is required, where a person applying can track the status of their application and have any related grievance redressed. A public hearing in Hyderabad on August 9, organised by a cross-section of citizens groups examining the long tale of unresolved grievances in the State, revealed how well-intentioned programmes can get mired in inertia and lead to dissatisfaction. A subsequent dialogue with senior officers dealing with public grievances in the State (Prajavani) and the Praja Palana platform revealed systemic shortcomings. This dialogue, followed by a meeting with the Chief Minister, has raised hope that a systemic solution will be found including the recording of grievances (with dated receipts); public facing digital tracking systems monitored by a team at the Chief Minister's Office; regular mandal-level public hearings; designated grievance redress officers for time-bound 'action taken' reports; and appellate mechanisms including provisions for penalties and compensation.

People need full and easy access to all information. The previous regime was hostile to the Right to Information Act (RTI), 2005, and proactive disclosure. Despite its publicised open data portal, most data sets are hidden behind administrative logins and are accessible only to the government. In fact, no Government Orders were put out in the public domain after 2014, undermining the first step of transparency in governance.

A party instrumental in passing the RTI Act needs to reclaim and build on its legacy. Section 4 (suo moto disclosure) of the Act needs to be implemented in letter and spirit in the State. One of the finest examples of a truly transparent mandatory and open data portal is the flourishing Jan Soochna portal, developed together by the government and civil society in Rajasthan, during Ashok Gehlot's tenure. This has since been adopted by the Karnataka government and is called Mahiti Kanaja.

However, democratic governance goes beyond transparency. It is acting upon every violation of promises made that delivers the message. People reward action, punish inaction, and want promises to be kept. Their expectations are high – expectations that this ruling party raised during its election campaign. To deliver on the expectations, the spirit of Praja Palana and Prajavani will have to be made an integral part of law and policy in the State. A social accountability law, modelled on the 2011 National Grievance Redress Bill, should be enacted immediately. It will change the verbal guarantees into 'guaranteed by law'.

Sowmya Kidambi is former Director of Society for Social Audit, Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Nikhil Dey is a social activist and a founder member of the Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan

Gukesh and Arjun reach stratospheric heights

The performances by the Indian youth in the Chess Olympiad match those of all-time greats

DATA POINT

Srinivasan Ramani

India secured two gold medals – one in the open category and the other in the women's category – at the 45th Chess Olympiad at Budapest. This was not only the country's best performance at the most prestigious team event in chess, but it also featured some superlative individual performances. This article will focus only on the open section.

The Chess Olympiad has been played since 1927. For years, the erstwhile Soviet Union dominated the event and later Russia did. In terms of individual performances, the creative genius Mikhail Tal leads all players in win percentage (81.2%) among those who played at least four Olympiads for their federation in the open section **(Table 1).** Tal won five individual gold and two silver medals and helped the USSR win eight gold medals. His compatriot, former world champion Anatoly Karpov, who went on to represent Russia later, has a win percentage of 80.3% – three individual golds and six team golds. Garry Kasparov, reckoned to be one of the top three all-time greats, is listed seventh with a win percentage of 78.7% – three individual golds and eight team golds.

The above table only looks at the winning percentage and does not account for the strength of the opposing players. This is measured by the 'performance ELO rating' or ELOp, calculated based on the player's ELO rating and that of his opponent. ELOp data is available from the 1972 Olympiad.

When all the players for whom the ELOp is available in the open section in each Olympiad are ranked **(Table 2)**, India's D. Gukesh stands out. His ELOp of 3056 is the best-ever performance by an individual in an Olympiad since 1972. Only those players who have played at least five games in a single Olympiad have been considered for this list. Gukesh managed to score 9 points in 10 games on Board 1, which is the toughest. That is why the equally worthy performance of his compatriot, Arjun Erigaisi, on Board 3, earning him 10 points in 11 games, got him a slightly lower ELOp of 2968. Only Andrei Volokitin of Ukraine managed a better ELOp than Arjun, though he did so on Board 5, the lowest board, in the 2016 Olympiad. Other prominent players such as Kasparov (in 2002) and Vladimir Kramnik (in 1992) are also featured in this list.

Chart 3 plots the total games played by each player against their ELOp. Only players with a ELOp of 2500 and who have played 10 games or more are shown. If ELOp is considered across Olympiads (since 1972) and we try to find out the strongest-ever performance, Gukesh (currently World No. 5 in the ELO live ratings) and Arjun (World No. 3) stand out. However, they have only played in two Olympiads (21 and 22 games each). Kasparov played in 82 games across multiple Olympiads and registered a stellar ELOp of 2806 (only the third player to have an average above 2800). Kramnik's ELOp was 2787 in 90 games.

Gukesh's opponent in the forthcoming World Championship in Singapore, Ding Liren from China, might have had an underwhelming tourney in Budapest, but he still maintains a ELOp of 2783 in 46 games. World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen has borne the burden of leading a somewhat weak Norway team in the 68 games he has played and his ELOp of 2764 is underwhelming relative to his own ELO (2830 currently).

Other stellar ELOps are owned by the U.S.'s Fabiano Caruana (2752 in 79 games), Bulgaria's Veselin Topalov (2748 in 85 games), Ukraine's Vasyl Ivanchuk (2742 in 90 games) and the U.S.'s (and previously Armenia's) Levon Aronian (2738 in 97 games).

The new and old kings of the Olympiad

The data for the tables and charts were sourced from OlimpBase and FIDE

Table 1: Players who played in at least four Olympiads are listed according to their winning % (top 10). In the table, Ind.: Individual

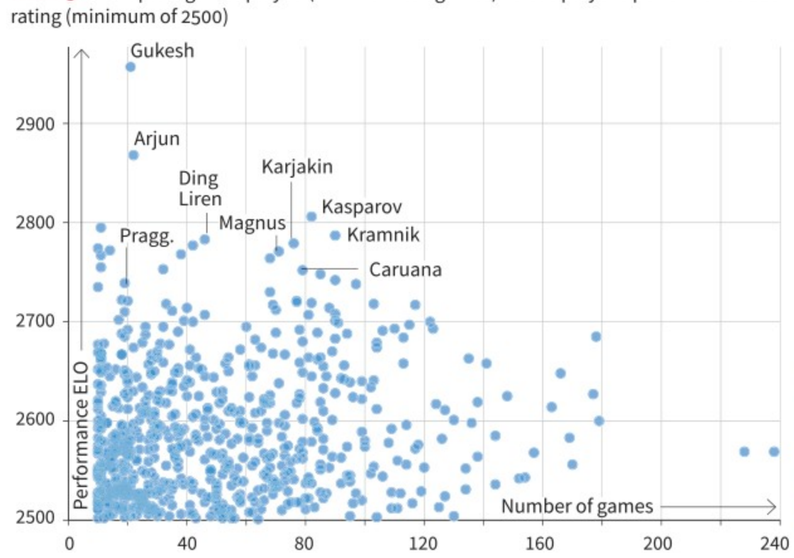
Player	Country	Olym-piad	Games	% wins	Medals		Player	Country	Olym-piad	Games	% wins	Medals	
					Ind.	Team						Ind.	Team
M Tal	USSR	8	101	81.2	5,2,0	8,0,0	D Bronstein	USSR	4	49	79.6	3,1,0	4,0,0
A Karpov	USSR	6	68	80.1	3,0,0	6,0,0	G Kasparov	USSR/Rus.	8	82	78.7	3,1,2	8,0,0
T Petrosian	USSR	10	129	79.8	6,0,0	9,1,0	A Alekhine	France	5	72	78.5	2,2,0	0,0,0
I Kashdan	U.S.	5	79	79.7	2,1,2	3,1,0	Matulović	Yugoslavia	6	78	76.9	1,2,0	0,2,2
V Smyslov	USSR	9	113	79.6	4,2,2	9,0,0	Paul Keres	Estonia/Rus.	10	141	75.9	5,1,1	7,0,1

Table 2: Top 15 performances in a single Olympiad (min. 5 games). Data only since 1972

Year	Board	Name (Federation)	ELOr	Points	Games	ELOp
2024	1	D.Gukesh (IND)	2764	9	10	3056
2016	5	Andrei Volokitin (UKR)	2647	8.5	9	2992
2024	3	Arjun Erigaisi (IND)	2778	10	11	2968
1992	1	Vladimir Kramnik (RUS)	2590	8.5	9	2958
2002	1	Garry Kasparov (RUS)	2838	7.5	9	2933
2016	5	Sami Khader (JOR)	2373	8	8	2932
2004	6	Sergey Karjakin (UKR)	2576	6.5	7	2929
2016	1	Baadur Jobava (GEO)	2665	8	10	2926
2018	3	Jorge Cori (PER)	2664	7.5	8	2925
2014	3	Yu Yangyi (CHN)	2668	9.5	11	2912
1992	1	Garry Kasparov (RUS)	2780	8.5	10	2908
2016	2	Vladimir Kramnik (RUS)	2808	6.5	8	2903
2022	3	David W L Howell (ENG)	2650	7.5	8	2898
2016	3	Wesley So (USA)	2782	8.5	10	2896
2010	2	Emil Sutovsky (ISR)	2665	7.5	9	2895

- In table 1, **medal tallies** should be read in the following order: gold, silver, bronze. For instance, Anatoly Karpov won three golds, zero silvers and zero bronzes in the individual events. He was also part of six team golds
- **ELO ratings** are used to measure a player's relative strength. The ELO system assigns a rating to each player, using the results of previous games. It adds weight based on the opponent's strength after each game
- **Performance ELO rating** or ELOp is calculated based on the player's ELO rating and that of his opponent in that tournament. In this case, the Olympiad

Chart 3: Chart plots games played (minimum ten games) versus player's performance ELO rating (minimum of 2500)



Mikhail Tal

Gukesh

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 25, 1974

India and Portugal agree to establish ties

New York, Sept. 24: India and Portugal have decided to re-establish diplomatic relations, healing a rupture which had persisted ever since India become independent 27 years ago.

After a 90-minute meeting here to-day between India's External Affairs Minister, Mr. Swaran Singh, and the Portuguese Foreign Minister, Mr. Mario Soares, the two Ministers subscribed to a communique which said the two countries had agreed to hold in the immediate future meetings between their representatives aimed at implementing the agreement reached to-day to re-establish Diplomatic and Consular relations, and for concluding a cultural agreement.

The communique added that the new Portuguese Government, which had overthrown the remnants of the Salazar regime in Lisbon earlier this year, was ready to recognise the full sovereignty of India over the former Portuguese territories of Goa, Daman, Dieu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, which had become part of the territory of India following their liberation from the Portuguese colonial rule in 1961.

For its part India as in the case of the former French territories, has agreed to co-operate with Lisbon for the promotion of Portuguese language and culture and for the preservation of historical monuments in Goa and other former Portuguese possessions.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 25, 1924

Madras Telephone Directory

The Madras Trades Association having complained to the Madras Telephone Company Limited of errors in the current edition of the Telephone Directory, the Company wrote thanking the Association for calling their attention to the errors. They noted, however, that the errors were for the most part of the order of a comma instead of a full-stop or vice versa, and would not, therefore, prevent subscribers when consulting the Directory from obtaining the correct numbers. The Company agreed, however, with the Association that there should be improvement in the printing and promised to take such steps as they hoped would minimise all the errors of the type referred to by the Association in future publications.

From Page One

Karnataka HC upholds nod for probe against CM

Rejecting Mr. Siddaramaiah's contention that the approval for investigation has to be taken only by the police officer and not by any private individuals, the court said, "Section 17A nowhere requires a police officer to seek approval in a private complaint registered under Section 200 of the Code of Criminal Procedure/Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, against a public servant for offences punishable under the provisions of the Act."

"It is the duty of the complainant to seek such approval" in case of a private complaint lodged before the competent courts, the court said. "The Gubernatorial order nowhere suffers from want of application of mind," the High Court said, rejecting Mr. Siddaramaiah's claim that the Governor had not applied his mind in granting permission for investigation.

'Not mandatory'

The court also made it clear that grant of an opportunity of hearing or issuing a show-cause notice prior to grant of approval for investigation under Section 17A is not mandatory. However, if the competent authority [Governor in this case] chooses to do so, it is open to it, the judge said.

It was argued on behalf of Mr. Siddaramaiah that the Governor had issued notice to him only on the complaint filed by Abraham T.J., and not on the two other complaints, filed by Snehamayi Krishna and Pradeep Kumar S.P.

The court also clarified that the Governor's order is read to be restrictive to an approval for investigation under Section 17A and not an order granting sanction for prosecution under Section 218 of the BNSS as it was clarified on behalf of the Governor that the order has to be contained only for investigation under Section 17A.

Zelenskyy meets Modi, expresses gratitude

Mr. Misri emphasised that Mr. Modi's conversations with Russian President Vladimir Putin and U.S. President Joe Biden following his (Mr. Modi's) August Kyiv visit, as well as National Security Adviser Ajit Doval's meeting with Mr. Putin on September 12, were all attempts to "try and move towards some specifics".

"I don't say that the specifics are available today, but the attempt is to do precisely that," Mr. Misri said.

Mr. Modi was deeply concerned about the conflict because of the human toll it was taking and the larger toll on the world, especially the Global South, the Foreign Secretary said, adding that the meeting demonstrated the Prime Minister's keenness to contribute to a resolution.

There was not much discussion on a second Peace Summit, Mr. Misri said.

First Summit on Peace

The first Summit on Peace in Ukraine was held in early June in Switzerland and India was represented at the secretary level.

The Ukrainian readout of the meeting specifically mentioned the conference.

"During the meeting, special attention was paid to strengthening interaction on international platforms, particularly within the UN and G20, as well as implementing the Peace Formula and preparing for the second Peace Summit," it said.

Both the Indian and Ukrainian sides appreciated the progress on bilateral issues, Mr. Misri said, and agreed to keep in touch, including potentially arranging a meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, which is led by the Foreign Ministers of the two countries.

The Ukrainian readout described some of these issues, such as enhancing trade and economic ties, defence cooperation, India's involvement in post-war reconstruction, and collaboration in education, science, and culture.

Bangladesh returns BSF jawan after talks

BSF personnel keep vigil at the India-Bangladesh international border. ANI

Violence erupted in the neighbouring country, and in several cases, members of Hindu community, their temples and shops, were specifically targeted.

The BSF, deployed along the 4,096 km border with Bangladesh, has been asked to not allow anyone to enter India without documents.

On August 9, the Ministry of Home Affairs constituted a five-member committee headed by Ravi Gandhi, Additional Director General, Eastern Command, BSF to communicate with Bangladeshi authorities "to ensure the safety and security of Indian nationals, Hindus, and other minority communities living there".

Good beginning, says India on UNSC reform document

World leaders recognise the urgent need of being more 'inclusive'; UN officials describe the language in 'Pact of the Future' on the long-pending Security Council reforms as 'groundbreaking'

Press Trust of India
NEW YORK

India said that a UN summit document for the first time containing a detailed paragraph on Security Council reform is a "good beginning", and New Delhi looks forward eventually to the beginning of text-based negotiations in a fixed time frame to reform the 15-nation body.

World leaders on September 22 adopted by consensus the "Pact of the Future", promising to "reform the Security Council, recognising the urgent need to make it more representative, inclusive, transparent, efficient, effective, democratic and accountable".

UN officials have described the language in the "Pact of the Future" on the long-pending Security Council reforms as "groundbreaking".

Redrawing lines: Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri during a special briefing on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the U.S. PTI

"I would only point you in the direction of the fact that for the first time, a UN summit document has a detailed paragraph on UN Security Council reform," said Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri in response to a question on how India sees this language on UN Security Council reform in the "Pact of the Future".

"So it may not have every single detail in every area that we would imagine or we would like there to be, but I think it's a good beginning," Mr. Misri said.

Mr. Misri said that India looks forward "eventually to the beginning of text-based negotiations in a fixed time-frame going forward".

Mr. Misri was briefing reporters here as Prime Minister Narendra Modi wrapped up his three-day visit to the U.S. during which he attended the Quad Leaders' Summit in Delaware, held bilateral discussions with President Joe Biden, addressed a mega diaspora event in Long Island, spoke in the UN General Assembly at the 'Summit of the Future', and held bilateral discussions with world leaders.

In the "Pact of the Future", world leaders agreed to redress the historical injustice against Africa as a priority and, while treating Africa as a special case, improve the representation of the under-represented and unrepresented regions and groups including Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean. They agreed to "enlarge" the Security Council to be more representative of the United Nations membership and reflective of the realities of the contemporary world.

Centre to launch new project on urban poverty alleviation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Pilot project will be set in motion in 25 cities across the country on October 1

The Union government will soon launch a programme dedicated to urban poverty alleviation, the pilot for which will be set in motion in 25 cities across the country on October 1. These 25 cities include industrial hubs, migrant centres, aspirational districts and port cities.

The pilot, which will span three months, with a preparatory phase of one month to ensure effective implementation, will utilise a Test-Learn-Scale approach, the Union Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation Ministry said in a statement on Tuesday.

The programme is designed to uplift vulnerable groups within the informal sector, including construction workers, gig workers, waste workers, care workers, domestic workers, and transportation workers, who often face occupational, social, and residential vulnerabilities.

"The pilot aims to break the cycle of poverty by providing financial assistance, social protection, and access to credit for micro-enterprises," the statement said.

Through strategic interventions and a collaborative approach, the proposed programme aims to reshape the livelihood landscape in urban India, ensuring that the benefits of urbanisation are equitably distributed to uplift the most vulnerable sections of society, it added.

Suggestions on designing the contours of the programme were given by 28 States and Union Territories at a workshop held on Monday. The workshop was attended by State Mission Directors, Municipal Commissioners, as well as senior Ministry officials.

Badlapur case: father of accused moves HC

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

A day after the accused in the Badlapur sexual assault case, Akshay Shinde, died in police firing, his father on Tuesday moved the Bombay High Court appealing to hear the matter urgently, saying evidence in the case will be destroyed. The matter will be heard by Justice Revati Mohit Dere on Wednesday.

Shinde was accused of sexually assaulting two minor girls at a school in Badlapur town of Thane district.

Advocates representing the victims in the case have also expressed concern about delay in justice.

EY affiliate was not registered under Shops and Establishments Act, say Labour officials

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit
Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

A major irregularity has been found at the Pune office of the EY member firm S.R. Batliboi and Co, Labour Department officials of the Maharashtra government told *The Hindu* on Tuesday, amid an investigation into an employee's death.

"We have found that though they have been operating there since 2007, they have not registered under the Shops and Establishments Act. This is a major irregularity. We have given them seven days for compliance. Our team conducted an inspection for the entire day on Monday from 12 noon to 4 p.m.," Shailendra Pol, Additional Labour Commissioner, told *The Hindu*.

Anna Sebastian Perayil, a 26-year-old chartered accountant, died in July, four months into her job at SRBC.

Ms. Perayil's mother, Anita Augustine, had written to EY India chairman Rajiv Memani, saying the "workload" and "long hours" had taken a toll on her daughter "physically, emotionally and mentally".

During the inspection, the State Labour Department team recorded statements of a few employees and sought documents and details about the welfare policies implemented for the employees.

S.R. Batliboi and Co in Pune is a member firm of Ernst and Young.

The department is mulling over bringing in guidelines to give protection to young employees of big companies, since they are not protected under labour laws at present, top sources said.

Mr. Pol said, "We had sought data about Anna Sebastian Perayil's case as well. We sought her appointment letter, her salary slip, her compensation details. We got details about her employment period. The team found that ₹28.5 lakh was deposited in her account for her employment for the period from March 11, 2024 to July 19, 2024.

The company said they provided double remuneration for extra work. They also said that the employees are given compensatory off for extra work hours. As per preliminary information, Anna was given comp off."

There are 294 employees in the company. The inspection team asked some of them if they received minimum wages and double pay for extra working hours.

"Our shop inspector and government labour officer were sent there. They conducted the inspection under Minimum Wages Act, Equal Remuneration Act, Contract Labour Act, Payment of Bonus Act, Bombay Shops and Establishments Act. The team also inspected the digital registers of the company, and directed them to submit hard copies of the registers in seven days," Mr. Pol said.

When contacted, EY told *The Hindu*, "SRBC & Co. LLP, a member firm of EY Global, is providing its full cooperation to the Ministry of Labour in its investigation. We cannot comment further while the investigation is ongoing."

Auditors must ensure digital infrastructure is open to all: Murmu

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Droupadi Murmu

President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday said supreme audit institutions (SAI) had the unique responsibility and opportunity to ensure that digital public infrastructure was designed and implemented in a way that was inclusive and accessible to all.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of sixth Asian Organisation of Supreme Audit Institution (ASOSAI) Assembly, being organised by the Comptroller and Auditor-General (CAG) of India, Ms. Murmu said the financial world was often beset by opaque accounting practices and in that setting, the role of independent supreme audit institutions was to see that public resources were managed efficiently and with the utmost integrity.

The President said audits and evaluations by such institutions not only safeguarded public funds but also enhanced public confidence in governance. Stating that in many parts of the world, women and vulnerable sections of society had less access to digital technologies, and were under-represented in the digital economy, she said the divide not only limited their ability to access essential services but also perpetuated inequality.

"This is where the role of SAIs becomes crucial. As auditors, they have the unique responsibility and opportunity to ensure that digital public infrastructure is designed and implemented in a way that is accessible to all," she said.

Ms. Murmu said the CAG had lived up to the expectations of the Constitution-makers by playing a key role in ensuring transparency and accountability in the country's public finance. She said the mandate of public sector audits had expanded beyond traditional auditing to include assessing the effectiveness of public welfare schemes, ensuring that they serve all citizens equitably.

Army to receive Apache choppers in Dec.; deploy LCH in Ladakh next year

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI/LEH

After a delay of more than six months, the Army is set to receive the first batch of three AH-64E Apache attack helicopters from Boeing in December.

While the Apaches are for the deserts, the Army is set to deploy the indigenous light combat helicopter (LCH), manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., in Ladakh next year.

"The manufacturer has communicated that there have been manufacturing delays due to supply chain issues. The first batch of three Apaches is now set to be delivered in December and the next three a few months after that," a defence source said. As per the original schedule, three helicopters were supposed to be delivered in May and three in July.

The light combat helicopter is specifically designed for high-altitude conditions, while the Apache is meant for deserts. ANI

The issue of delays was taken up with the U.S. at the political level and it was requested to prioritise the deliveries, the source added. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh was on an official visit to the U.S. in August.

On the LCH, a second source said the plan was to deploy them in Ladakh in 2024-25. The Apaches are ideal for countering armour and would be deployed in the deserts, another official said, adding that their capability gets limited in high altitudes due to their operational envelope. The LCH is specifically designed for high-altitude conditions, the official added.

In March, the Army Aviation formally raised the 451 Aviation Squadron at Jodhpur that would operate the Apaches. The Apaches would be the second attack helicopters in the Army after the indigenous LCH.

India signed a deal with Boeing for six Apaches, for the Army, at a cost of around $800 million in February 2020. As part of the deal, six pilots and 24 technicians were trained by Boeing in the U.S.

The Army Aviation, which has for long operated utility helicopters, inducted its first dedicated attack helicopter with the LCH and the first squadron, 351 Army Aviation, was moved to Missamari, Assam in the Eastern sector near the Line of Actual Control in November 2022.

SC considers petitions on sub-quota division

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A seven-judge Bench of the Supreme Court examined a series of petitions seeking a review of its August 1 judgment that States have the right to sub-classify Scheduled Castes.

The review petitions argued that the President had the exclusive powers to identify the SCs and STs.

APPEAL

14 years old Santhosh is suffering from T Cell-Acute Lymphoblastic Leukimia. He urgently needs Chemotheraphy and Radiation for 3-years at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. The total expenditure is Rs.8,00,000/-. His family is very poor and cannot afford this huge cost. Please help him to have bright future. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged.** The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C. No. 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT.

All correspondence is done through **WWS**, Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13. N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 28235324/7338978027. E-mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com**. www.womenwelfaresyndicate.org.

wws

Many prominent faces will face poll test in J&K elections today

NC's Omar Abdullah, Congress's Tariq Hameed Karra and BJP unit chief Ravinder Raina among 239 candidates in the fray in the second phase of polling; J&K Apni Party founder Altaf Bukhari is contesting from Chanapora for the first time

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Many prominent political faces from Jammu and Kashmir will be put to the poll test in 26 Assembly constituencies in the second phase of election on Wednesday.

The fate of former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and National Conference (NC) vice-president Omar Abdullah will be decided by voters of the Ganderbal and Budgam constituencies, which saw a cut-throat campaign.

Mr. Abdullah will face a high number of 16 contestants in the Ganderbal constituency and seven in Budgam.

Mr. Abdullah lost the Lok Sabha election to Sheikh Abdul Rashid, aka Engineer Rashid, who contested from prison in the Baramulla constituency. NC president Dr. Farooq Abdullah has decided against contesting for health reasons. Hence it is vital for him to win a seat and let the NC have a presence in the 90-member Assembly of the Union Territory.

Gearing up: Security personnel keep guard as polling officials carrying election material leave for polling stations in the Nowshera area of Rajouri district on Tuesday. PTI

In Srinagar district, J&K Pradesh Congress Committee president Tariq Hameed Karra's political fate will be sealed in ballot boxes in the Central Shaltengh constituency. His candidature is supported by the NC.

J&K Apni Party founder Altaf Bukhari is contesting from the Chanapora Assembly constituency for the first time and will face a challenge from seven other contestants, including of the NC and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

Street rallies

Sugra Barkati, 17, the daughter of jailed cleric and contestant Sarjan Ahmad Wagay from Shopian in south Kashmir, has upended the poll calculations of major political parties, including former MLA Nazir Khan, in the Beerwah constituency. Ms. Barkati's street rallies and emotional speeches about her parents' detention have managed to galvanise significant support from voters, especially women, in the constituency.

In the Jammu region, Bharatiya Janata Party unit president Ravinder Raina will seek re-election from Nowshera, which is close to the Line of Control (LoC). He is facing a tough competition from Surinder Kumar Choudhary of the NC and Haq Nawaz of the PDP.

Former Minister and ex-Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) leader Chowdhary Zulfikar Ali, a new entrant into the BJP, will face the poll test from the Budhal constituency in the Pir Panjal valley.

His fight is against his nephew Javed Iqbal Choudhary of the NC and Guftar Ahmad of the PDP. Mr. Iqbal, son of Mr. Ali's elder sister, has proved his electoral sway when he won the Block Development Council (BDC) election from Kotranka block in 2020.

Mr. Iqbal's wife Shazia Kouser too won the District Development Council (DDC) elections from the constituency.

A total of 239 candidates – 233 men and six women – are in the fray in the second phase.

With sub-categorisation of SCs a reality in Haryana, BJP does a balancing act

NEWS ANALYSIS

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

The BJP has given candidates from the deprived category ticket in nine of the 17 reserved Assembly constituencies

As campaigning for the Assembly election in Haryana enters its final phase, the Dalit vote has emerged as the fulcrum around which the fate of the polls hangs, with the Bharatiya Janata Party banking on support from both deprived and other categories of the Scheduled Castes.

The BJP has given candidates from the deprived category ticket in nine of the 17 reserved Assembly constituencies, with the other section getting eight.

Haryana is the one States where the Supreme Court's decision allowing sub-categorisation of SCs was implemented just before the election got under way.

Two categories

The Haryana State Scheduled Castes Commission has made two sub-categories – there are 36 castes under the deprived category, which includes Ad Dharmi, Balmikis, Bazigar, Dhanaks, Bawaria, Mazhabi Sikhs and Khatik, and the other category includes Chamar, Jatia Chamar, Rehgar, Raigar, Ramdasi, Ravidasi, Jatav, Balahi, Batoi, and Ramdasia.

"We were not so conscious about the sub-categorisation issue during the Lok Sabha election, giving ticket for the two reserved seats in the State to the other category. During the Assembly election, we have been careful about accommodating the deprived category, and we hope that voters will see this," said a senior BJP member involved in back-room strategy for the party in Haryana.

For the BJP, the road to gaining the Dalit vote is not an easy job, with Congress leader Kumari Selja too moving towards a rapprochement with former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda after the Congress high command intervened in the matter.

"Before this, when we interacted with Dalit communities, there was resentment there on behalf of Kumari Selja and how she was being sidelined by the Hoodas," said a senior leader. "We are now banking on some of that resentment remaining, and also our ticket distribution."

2011 census

By the 2011 Census, the Scheduled Castes account for around 20% of Haryana's population, important in nearly 47 Assembly constituencies, including the 17 reserved.

The BJP's share of this vote bank, however, has been progressively shrinking. In 2014, for example, the BJP won nine out of the 17 reserved Assembly seats, which dropped to five in 2019. "In such a scenario, our ticket distribution has taken into account the sub-categorisation, and we hope that it will help us secure support among these communities," said the leader.

Cong. flays SBI's decision to convert SIIL debt into equity, urges RBI to take action

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Questioning the State Bank of India's reported decision to convert its outstanding debt into equity in Supreme Infrastructure India Ltd. (SIIL), the Congress on Tuesday urged the Reserve Bank of India to step in and examine the SBI's decision-making process in this matter.

In a post on X, Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh shared a media report which said the SBI would take a dual role in the debt restructuring of the defaulter SIIL, with the country's largest public sector bank transitioning from being its primary creditor to becoming an equity stakeholder.

"In an extraordinary move, the SBI has decided to convert its outstanding debt into equity in SIIL, a firm that declared bankruptcy. The lenders, including SBI, took a 93.45% haircut on the debt," Mr. Ramesh said.

Jairam Ramesh

"This arrangement creates a dangerous precedent in India's corporate debt landscape. It encourages other defaulting companies to seek similar deals, where they can retain control and value even after significant defaults," the Congress general secretary added.

He said the move raised questions about the effectiveness of India's insolvency resolution framework and the role of public sector banks in managing distressed assets.

The SBI appeared to be aligning itself with the interests of the defaulting borrower rather than prioritising the recovery of public funds.

"The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) needs to step in and examine SBI's decision-making process in this matter," Mr. Ramesh said.

Rahul's charge

Meanwhile, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said 90% of small investors had lost ₹1.8 lakh crore in Futures and Option (F&O) trading in three years, and asked the Securities and Exchange Board of India to reveal the names of the "so-called big players" profiteering at their expense.

More than 91% or 73 lakh individual traders lost money in the F&O segment in this financial year with an average net loss of ₹1.2 lakh per person, a study conducted by the markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) revealed on Monday.

Further, 93% of over one crore individual F&O traders incurred average losses of about ₹2 lakh per trader (inclusive of transaction costs) during the three years from 2022 to 2024. The aggregate losses of such traders exceeded ₹1.8 lakh crore during the period.

(With PTI inputs)

Cong. plans to field Gandhis towards end of election campaign in Haryana

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

There are just 10 days left before campaigning for the October 5 Assembly election in Haryana draws to a close, but the Congress's top leadership is yet to hit the campaign trail in the State. A senior leader, however, says the party will "unleash its firepower in the end so that the momentum is carried on until the voting day".

On Tuesday, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi released a video of his visit to Karnal, where he met the relatives of the youth who had taken the "*dunki* route" (illegal emigration by 'donkey flights') to find work in the U.S.

"During my visit to America, I met those youngsters from Haryana who are struggling in a foreign country, away from their families," he said in a post on X. "Why did the youth of Haryana turn to *Dunki*? Lakhs of families are paying the price of the 'disease of unemployment' spread by the BJP by being away from their loved ones."

Last Friday, when Mr. Gandhi met the family members of the youth after his return to India, he said their eyes welled up. "It is our resolve that as soon as the Congress government is formed, we will create such a system in Haryana in which the youth will not have to stay away from their loved ones for their dreams," the Congress leader said.

Hitting the trail: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with kin of the youth who had taken the '*dunki* route', in Karnal on Tuesday. PTI

Though the Congress has made unemployment and farmers' anger towards government policies the key poll issues in Haryana, Mr. Gandhi is yet to address a single election rally in the State. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge released the party's manifesto featuring its "guarantees" for the State here on September 18, and was scheduled to address his first public meeting in Ambala on Monday, but he had to miss it because of health issues. Another star campaigner, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, too has been missing.

Not an easy road

"Though both the BJP and we [the Congress] won five Lok Sabha seats each in Haryana, we won in 46 Assembly segments, while the BJP won 44. So any estimation of the Congress winning 60-plus may be an overestimation," a party functionary said, emphasising the need for the top leadership to be more directly involved.

However, a senior leader involved in campaign planning and strategy said that from Thursday, there would at least be four public programmes with Mr. Gandhi, including one joint programme with Ms. Vadra. "Rahul*ji* is likely to travel [to Haryana] on September 26, 27 and 30, and October 1. Priyanka*ji* will also have two-three programmes and the Congress president (Mr. Kharge) will also come," he said.

The absence of the party's top leaders from the campaign so far, coupled with the very public spat between former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda and Union Minister Kumari Selja, has given the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) the opportunity to target the Congress.

"We are very much united," Partap Singh Bajwa, Leader of the Opposition in the Punjab Assembly, who has been appointed a senior Congress observer for the election, told *The Hindu*. "The BJP has conceded defeat by giving invitations to some of our leaders to join them. We (the Congress) are headed for a landslide victory," he said.

Youth activist from Bihar joins the Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Anupam, head of a civil society group, Yuva Halla Bol, from Bihar, joined the Congress on Tuesday.

He joined the party here in the presence of party general secretary K.C. Venugopal, Bihar Congress chief Akhilesh Prasad Singh and media and publicity department head Pawan Khera.

"Congress and Rahul Gandhi have been continuously raising the issue of unemployment. Our colleague Anupam*ji* formed a platform of 113 organisations and through that platform, he staged demonstrations and even went to jail. He also opposed the Agnipath scheme," Mr. Khera said.

The group's agitation on issues related to the NEET paper leak and unemployment has been ongoing in every district of Bihar.

"Justice requires moral strength and in today's politics, Mr. Gandhi is the person with the most moral strength. That is why I have joined the Congress party," Mr. Anupam said.

OFFICE OF THE SOCIETY FOR CLIMATE RESILIENT AGRICULTURE IN NAGALAND (SoCRAN)
FOCUS-NAGALAND, KOHIMA, NAGALAND- 797004

Ref. No: NCB No: APC/FOCUS/T&M/166(94) 2024 (pt) Date: 25/09/2024

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

The Project invites bids for the procurement of Woman Friendly / Drudgery reducing / Hill farming low-cost tools and machineries for its Farmers under FOCUS-Nagaland.

The deadline for submission of bids is 14:00 hrs on **15/10/2024.**

For more details and to download the NCB, kindly visit: **https://focus.nagaland.gov.in/**

Sd/-
(Shanavas C, IAS)
State Project Director
APC Cell, FOCUS-Nagaland
Nagaland Civil Secretariat, Kohima- 797004

Date: 25.09.2024
Place: Kohima

Government of Rajasthan
Office of the Chairman, NEET PG Admission/Counseling Board-2024
SMS Medical College, Jaipur, Rajasthan | Phone : 0141-2619020
https://medicaleducation.rajasthan.gov.in/me/#/home/dptHome | www.rajpgneet2024.org
No. State PG Counseling Board/2024/ Dated : 23.09.2024

NOTIFICATION
State Medical PG Seats (M.D / M.S) / Post MBBS DNB / Post MBBS Diploma Allotments-2024

The registration for MD/MS, Post MBBS DNB and Post MBBS Diploma courses in Rajasthan shall commence on-line from 25.09.2024 and the allotment procedure will be carried out as per the detailed schedule to be made available at **www.rajpgneet2024.org**

All concerned PWD candidates are required to obtain their Disability certificate (issued by any of the 16 centers approved by MCC for the purpose) by the date scheduled by MCC.

The candidates are advised to visit the website regularly for all updates.

Chairman
NEET PG Admission/Counseling Board-2024,
Jaipur, Rajasthan
DIPR/C/9041/24

Email-rajugpgayush@gmail.com

कार्यालय, चेयरमेन काउंसलिंग बोर्ड,
(यू.जी./पी.जी. आयुष काउंसलिंग बोर्ड, राजस्थान सरकार)
आयुष भवन, कमरा नं. 107-212-214, सेक्टर-26, प्रताप नगर, जयपुर 302033

M.D./M.S.(Ayurved) एवं M.D. (Homoeopathy) पाठ्यक्रमों में सत्र 2024-25 में प्रवेश हेतु ऑनलाईन काउंसलिंग-रजिस्ट्रेशन एवं च्वॉइस फिलिंग की सूचना

उपरोक्त आयुष स्नातकोत्तर पाठ्यक्रमों में सत्र 2024-25 में प्रवेश हेतु (i) **अखिल भारतीय कोटे** की 15 प्रतिशत सीटों पर राजस्थान राज्य के निजी आयुष महाविद्यालयों/विश्वविद्यालयों के लिए एवं (ii) **राज्य- कोटे** की राजकीय एवं निजी आयुष महाविद्यालयों/विश्वविद्यालयों की 85 प्रतिशत सीटों के लिए AIAPGET - 2024 के पात्रताधारक अभ्यर्थियों से डॉ. सर्वपल्ली राधाकृष्णन् राजस्थान आयुर्वेद विश्वविद्यालय जोधपुर से सम्बद्धता प्राप्त सभी राजकीय एवं निजी महाविद्यालयों तथा राजस्थान के समस्त निजी विश्वविद्यालयों के संघटक आयुष महाविद्यालयों के लिए ऑन-लाईन रजिस्ट्रेशन- आवेदन एवं च्वॉइस फिलिंग दिनांक 24.09.2024 से 26.09.2024 तक आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं।

1. निजी आयुष स्नातकोत्तर महाविद्यालयों में **अखिल भारतीय कोटे की 15 प्रतिशत सीटों** पर प्रवेश, काउंसलिंग प्रक्रिया के प्रथम दो चरणों में **राज्य कोटे की काउंसलिंग के समानान्तर** साथ-साथ में होंगे, जिसके लिये राजस्थान सहित अन्य राज्यों के पात्र अभ्यर्थी भी इन प्रथम दो चरणों में रजिस्ट्रेशन कर ऑनलाईन आवेदन कर सकते हैं। इन दो प्रथम चरणों के लिए अखिल भारतीय कोटे में राजस्थान एवं अन्य राज्यों के अभ्यर्थी केवल निजी आयुष महाविद्यालयों में ही प्रवेश हेतु ऑप्शन भर सकेंगे, जिनको ऑवर ऑल मेरिट के आधार पर प्रवेश आवंटित किया जायेगा।
2. अखिल भारतीय कोटे की सीटें उक्त दो चरणों के पश्चात रिक्त रह जाने की स्थिति में उन रिक्त रही सीटों को राज्य कोटे में सम्मिलित करके अगले चरण में पात्र अभ्यर्थियों को मेरिट के आधार पर प्रवेश दिये जायेंगे।

रजिस्ट्रेशन, आवेदन शुल्क एवं अन्य विस्तृत जानकारी काउंसलिंग बोर्ड की वेबसाईट **www.rajugpgayushcounselling.in** पर उपलब्ध है, जिनका नियमित रूप से अवलोकन करते रहें। हेल्पलाईन नं. 0141-2950362, मोबाईल नं: 9875816705

डॉ. बत्तीलाल बैरवा
चेयरमेन
DIPR/C/9030/2024

TAMIL NADU FOREST DEPARTMENT
SALE NOTICE

Public auction sale will be held for the right for cutting, collection and removal of Babul fuel wood and Prosopis along with uprootal of root portion of Prosopis in the following Divisions on the dates as noted against each. The details of sale of the plantations can be collected from the Divisional / District Forest Officers concerned on all working days during office hours.

Sl.No.	Name of the Division	Date of First Sale
1	Tirunelveli SF	09.10.2024
2	Thoothukudi	14.10.2024
3	Krishnagiri SF & Ext	16.10.2024
4	Dharmapuri SF & Ext	18.10.2024
5	Trichy	21.10.2024
6	Pudukottai	23.10.2024
7	Ariyalur	25.10.2024
8	Thanjavur	28.10.2024
9	Perambalur	04.11.2024
10	Thiruvarur	05.11.2024
11	Villupuram	06.11.2024
12	Cuddalore	08.11.2024
13	Vellore	11.11.2024
14	Thiruvannamalai	13.11.2024
15	Chengalpattu SF	15.11.2024
16	Tiruvallur	18.11.2024
17	Madurai	20.11.2024
18	Theni	22.11.2024
19	Ramanathapuram	25.11.2024
20	Sivagangai	27.11.2024
21	Virudhunagar SF	29.11.2024

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)
DIPR/981/Display/2024

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
MARINE DEPARTMENT
No.MD/SHS/TECH-16/2024/1144
Dated : 12/09/2024
e-Tender Call Notice (e-TCN) No.MD/SHS/TECH-16/2024/1144, dtd.12.09.2024

Name of the work : "Maintenance dredging of 8.5 Million M³ quantity from Approach Channel, Entrance Channel, Truning Circles & Docks of Paradip Port Authority for one year i.e.for the year 2025-26 including Mobilization / De-mobilization. Estimated Cost put to tender : Rs.146,10,00,000/- excluding GST. Last date & time of submission of tender through on-line bidding till 17:00 hours on Dt.29/10/2024. The technical bids shall be opened at 16:30 hours on dt.01/11/2024. For further details, please log on to the Website: https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.

Dy. Conservator, Paradip Port Authority
PPA/PR/39/2024-25, Dt.23/09/2024

READ
FRONTLINE
LEADING THE DEBATE SINCE 1984
EVERY FORTNIGHT.
TO SUBSCRIBE, VISIT
www.thehindugroup.in/subscribe

MAHATRANSCO
Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) (LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)

SRM e-Tender No. T-2453/MSETCL/CO/ Projects /Pre-Tender 3rd Call (Rfx No. 6000001235)

MSETCL invites offers by SRM e-tendering in TWO bid system (Techno-Commercial Bid and Price Bid) from the eligible registered bidders for the following work as detailed below.

"Establishment of 132/33 kV Fulsawangi Substation Dist. Yavatmal along with associated transmission line under Amravati zone, MSETCL, Maharashtra."

Interested bidders may obtain further information available on the website. https://srmetender.mahatransco.in

The date of downloading of Bid documents available on the website is from 16.09.2024.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Projects), MSETCL

INBRIEF

MGNREGS workers urge PM to resume scheme in Bengal

Over 4,700 MGNREGS workers have written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to resume Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) work in West Bengal that has been suspended since December 2021. The workers sent one rupee each to Mr. Modi, offering to raise funds themselves if the Centre does not act. As part of the campaign on Tuesday, nearly 100 workers led by Paschim Banga Khet Mazdoor Samity gathered at the BJP State headquarters in Kolkata for a 'Gherao' programme. In the second round, workers from Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Bihar, and Odisha will converge at Ranchi on Sunday.

Agencies trying to falsely implicate me, says Baghel

In a letter to the Chief Justice of India, former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister and senior Congress leader Bhupesh Baghel has alleged that there was an attempt by the Central investigating agencies to falsely implicate him in alleged crimes and tarnish his reputation. In the letter dated September 22, Mr. Baghel has catalogued the various corruption cases which were registered during his stint as the CM [2018-2023] and mentioned the various twists and turns during the investigation into these cases, alleging that the agencies such as the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) made attempts to link him to these cases.

Lok Sabha using AI and machine learning: Birla

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Tuesday said artificial intelligence and machine learning technologies were put to use to make available House proceedings in regional languages to MPs.

Addressing a press conference here after the two-day meeting of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association India Region, Mr. Birla said the Lok Sabha Secretariat was also sharing its expertise in technology with legislatures of States and Union Territories to speed up the process of digitisation.

Officials said 18,000 hours of footage of House proceedings since 1992 would be digitised.

Mr. Birla said that during the conference, presiding officers of State legislatures also deliberated on the agenda of the 67th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Sydney from November 3 to 8. The CPC has shortlisted eight topics, including support of legislatures to promote LGBTQ+ participation, use of AI in parliamentary proceedings, violence and abuse of parliamentarians, and human trafficking for deliberation by participants.

Unemployment rate has not fallen: labour survey

Survey report says there is a minor increase in distribution of workers in agriculture; participation of women in the workforce has improved; unemployment rate is 3.2%, similar to that of last year

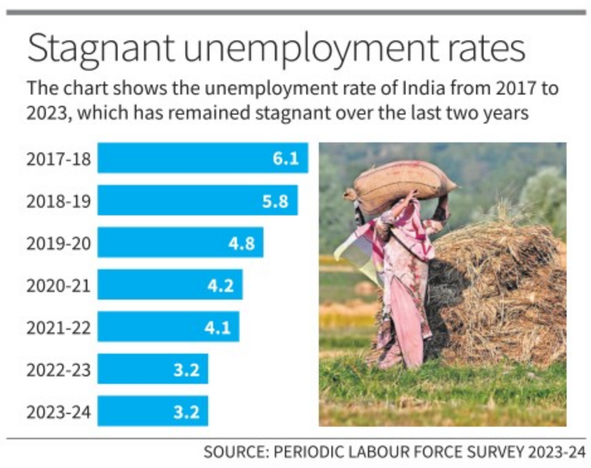
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for the period between July 2023 and June 2024, released by the Labour Bureau on Monday, reported no major change in the unemployment rate (UR). There is a minor increase in the distribution of workers in agriculture, and the manufacturing sector shows no growth in giving jobs compared with the past years.

The participation of women in the workforce has improved. The Centre had faced criticism for the growing unemployment rate and decrease in the number of women in jobs.

A release by the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation said that in rural areas, the Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) increased from 50.7% in 2017-18 to 63.7% in 2023-24, while for urban areas, it increased from 47.6% to 52%.

"LFPR for males in India increased from 75.8% in 2017-18 to 78.8% in 2023-24 and corresponding increase in LFPR for females was from 23.3% to 41.7%," the release said.


Stagnant unemployment rates
The chart shows the unemployment rate of India from 2017 to 2023, which has remained stagnant over the last two years
2017-18 6.1
2018-19 5.8
2019-20 4.8
2020-21 4.2
2021-22 4.1
2022-23 3.2
2023-24 3.2
SOURCE: PERIODIC LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2023-24

The LFPR for Muslim women increased from 15% in 2021-22 to 21.4% in 2023-24. In the case of Hindu women, the participation in workforce increased from 26.1% in 2021-22 to 33.3% in this year. Similarly, among Sikh and Christian women, the LFPR increased from 19.8% to 26.7% and 34.2% to 38.3%, respectively.

In rural areas, the unemployment rate decreased from 5.3% in 2017-18 to 2.5% in 2023-24, while for urban areas, it decreased from 7.7% to 5.1%.

"UR for male in India decreased from 6.1% in 2017-18 to 3.2% in 2023-24 and corresponding decrease for female was from 5.6% to 3.2%," the Centre said. The overall unemployment rate is 3.2%, similar to last year.

Grim picture

Experts said the annual survey gave a grim picture of the employment scenario.

"Grim situation has become grimmer. The annual report is revealing it," said labour economist Santosh Mehrotra. "There is no improvement in the unemployment scenario, neither in youth unemployment nor in overall unemployment," he said.

He said the Centre continued to claim that the LFPR and Worker Population Ratio were increasing. "It is because of the increase in workers in agriculture. This also means that unpaid family labour has also increased and the PLFS counts this unpaid family labour as employment. The participation of workers in agriculture share has gone up for the fourth year in a row. This is shocking," he said.

Professor Mehrotra said the increase in workforce in agriculture meant that the process of people looking for non-farm jobs reversed and it had not stopped.

As the workers' participation in manufacturing is still 11.4%, he said, the share of manufacturing in providing employment is not increasing.

"In 2012, it was 12.8%, and it ever recovered in the last 10 years. The contribution of construction work has gone back to 12%. The sector, which revived, is not showing any buoyancy," he said.

SC asks for CAQM's report on burning stubble

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday sought a report from the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) on incidents of stubble-burning and action taken against these occurrences.

Appearing before a Bench headed by Justice A.S. Oka, senior advocate Anitha Shenoy made an oral mentioning about reports of stubble-burning in the neighbourhood of the national capital.

Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the CAQM and the government, said it would enquire and revert to the court.

'We want answers'

"Yes, we want answers. We will have it Friday," Justice Oka observed. The court had held extensive hearings on stubble-burning and ways to stop the practice during the onset of winter.

In November last year, the Supreme Court had directed Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi to ensure stubble-burning was "forthwith" stopped as an immediate measure to protect lives and health of people.

Israel seeks 10,000 more skilled construction workers from India

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Israel is seeking up to 10,000 skilled Indian workers in its latest eight-day recruitment drive being held in the Industrial Training Institute at Aundh in Pune till Wednesday.

Officials in the Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Ministry said the current phase of recruitment followed the initial drive conducted this year in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Telangana.

"To date, approximately 4,800 Indian workers have been deployed to Israel, earning salaries of around ₹1.32 lakh a month and a monthly bonus of ₹16,000," officials said.

An additional 1,500 workers from the first cohort began their journey to Israel on September 18, bringing the total number of skilled Indian professionals in Israel to over 5,000.

Skills at play: As many as 5,000 Indian skilled workers have been employed in Israel so far. REUTERS

Officials further said Israeli employers had expanded their recruitment targets, seeking an additional 10,000 candidates in this round.

"The focus remains on four critical areas of expertise – framework, iron bending, plastering, and ceramic tiling," they said. A delegation of 12 Israeli officials arrived in India on September 16 to oversee the recruitment effort.

The recruitment is aimed at fulfilling Israel's growing demand for skilled construction workers while offering Indian workers international career opportunities, officials said.

This recruitment drive is a result of a government-to-government (G2G) agreement signed between India and Israel in November 2023. The Maharashtra government has provided infrastructure and logistical support at the ITI, Aundh, where Deputy Director and Joint Director in-charge Ramakant Bhavsar, along with his team, are aiding the recruitment efforts at the institute.

The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is responsible for preparing candidates for the technical and professional challenges they will face in Israel.

This recruitment drive is being perceived as one which positions India as a global supplier of skilled human resources in international markets.

Indian Railways to overhaul ageing signalling systems for better safety

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

Worried over many signalling systems remaining functional beyond their recommended lifespan, the Indian Railways has decided to replace signal assets that have outlived their codal life.

In a directive to the General Managers of all Zonal Railways, the Railway Ministry emphasised the urgent need to prioritise the replacement of signal assets nearing or surpassing their codal life. To avoid delays, this critical work would be carried out independently, without impacting the ongoing infrastructure projects, including track doubling and the construction of third or fourth lines.

By rolling out a "Plan for Reliability Improvement and Maintenance Effectiveness (PRIME)", the Railways aims at improving the reliability and maintainability of the signalling systems, which were vital for safe train operations. The plan underscores the need for regular staff training and counselling on safety and maintenance protocols to ensure high standards of work quality.

Safe journey: The Railways aims at improving the reliability and maintainability of the signalling systems. V. GANESAN

A key issue highlighted by the Ministry is the frequent occurrence of cable cuts along railway tracks, which had led to multiple signalling failures.

These disruptions not only hampered train operations but posed serious safety risks, potentially resulting in catastrophic accidents.

Recent train collisions

According to senior Railway officials, the renewed focus on safety came in the wake of several major train accidents over the past two years, including the tragic triple train collision in Odisha's Balasore district on June 2, 2023, which claimed 291 lives and left over 900 injured. Faulty signals were suspected to have led to the devastating accident.

Also, in the two major rear-end collisions, one in the Waltair Division of East Coast Railway and the other in the Katihar Division of Northeast Frontier Railway, in the past one year, lapses in managing train operations in automatic signalling territory were cited as reasons for the accidents.

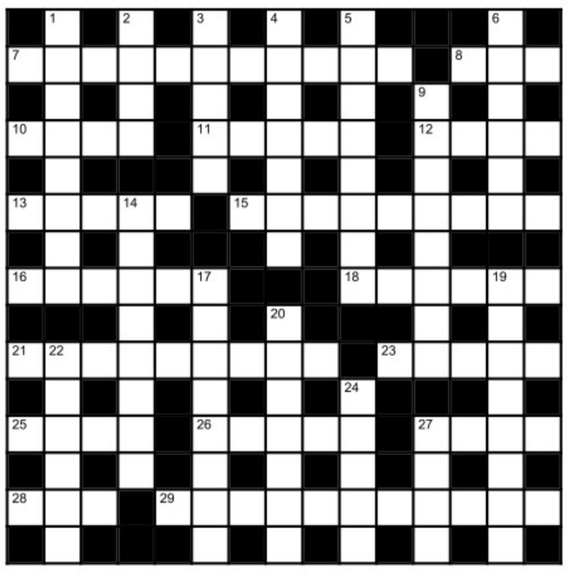
To address these issues, the Railways instructed training centres to provide special focus on acquainting and training of staff of all departments concerned on new systems that are coming up.

TH CROSSWORD + 14289

(set by Hypatia)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

7 Party at sea means exotic destinations for surfers (6,5)
8 Cross old boy returning to fight (3)
10 In Tbilisi, she regularly spotted this bird (4)
11 Musical instrument in bar beside sweetheart (5)
12 Express outlet (4)
13 Poor daughter born earlier's close to family (5)
15 His crew managed to save president and king in Titanic, perhaps (9)
16 Also ate most of friend's fruit (6)
18 American rapper in boring viral image going round (6)
21 Has a lucky shot in "Dynasty", say (9)
23 List of blind experiments (5)
25 Metal in bare razor gets hot before cutting, initially (4)
26 Brown *aloo* in pan (5)
27 Feel sorry after deserting short husband (4)
28 Reserved question for women's school (3)
29 Systematic debugging? (4,7)

Down

1 Republican wearing silly boomers' hat (8)
2 Clarifications in websites for all queries, suggested primarily (4)
3 Handles set up in Lisbon kiosks (5)
4 Lewd youth stripped in farm by end of day (7)
5 Dessert pastry with baked meringue and melon (5,3)
6 Standing up, may leave with cold drink (6)
9 Dislike states working to stifle India (8)
14 Heard Reverend guided clinician in stand-off (8)
17 Every now and then, Zoya Akhtar refers to some evergreen producers? (3,5)
19 Once mostly elite, corrupt process of choosing leaders (8)
20 Greeting gent from down South in high tea (7)
22 Stature of Hitler's leadership cut with authority (6)
24 Attitude of that group cycling (5)
27 Stroke patients undergoing terrible trauma basically (4)

SUDOKU

				6		5	2	
2			1	9		6		3
	2	6	3	5	8	1		
1								2
		9	7	1	2	3	5	
6		1		8	9			4
	8	3		2				

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

No.SS6291 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

	P		Q		T				E		V		H	
F		A		B		U		L		O		U		S
	R		A		R		K		P		N		V	
R		A		C		Y		P		R		E		O
	D					I		L		E		R		L
W		I		Z		A		R		D		E		C
	G		F					T		S		T		
	M		E		T		E		O		R		O	
			E		P				N				O	
C		H		A		R		T		E		R		S
	E				M		R		T		E			
C		A		T		A		M		A		R		A
	V				T		T				F		P	
T		E		C		H		I		E				F
	N				S		D						T	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	5	3	7	9	8	2	6	4
4	7	6	1	2	5	8	3	9
9	8	2	6	3	4	1	5	7
6	4	8	3	7	1	9	2	5
5	9	7	8	6	2	4	1	3
3	2	1	4	5	9	6	7	8
7	1	4	2	8	3	5	9	6
2	6	5	9	4	7	3	8	1
8	3	9	5	1	6	7	4	2

FAITH

Philosophical questions

Vidhi is a topic dealt with in the Mahabharata in many sargas. Sometimes the word *vidhi* is not used. Instead, words like *kaala* (time), *tishta* (divine will), *purva janma karma* and *bhagya* are used, all denoting what we know as *vidhi*, elaborated P.T. Seshadri in a discourse. But what is this *vidhi*? Our deeds in previous janmas give us certain consequences in subsequent births, and this is *vidhi*. In the Anusasana parva of the Mahabharata, we find the story of Gautami, whose son died of snake bite. A hunter trapped the snake, and brought it to Gautami. He told Gautami that she should decide how the snake should be killed. Gautami asked him to set the snake free, for one could not conquer *vidhi*.

The snake said, "I am not responsible for the death of the child. Yama is." Yama said, "I am not responsible. Nothing is permanent – not the sun, or moon, or oceans, sky, rivers, or earth. Everything appears and then disappears due to Bhagavan's *sankalpa*. Bhagavan carries out His will through Kaala deva." Kaala deva said, "Our actions in previous births have consequences in the present birth." The Mahabharata then poses many questions. Was Kaala deva right? If the snake could get away with this, then was there no *papa* or *punya*? What if people did something wrong, and escaped, blaming *vidhi*?

INBRIEF

BoB, EaseMyTrip.com unveil co-branded travel debit card

Bank of Baroda (BoB), in collaboration with EaseMyTrip.com, has introduced a co-branded travel debit card targeting frequent travellers. "This is the first co-branded travel debit card to be launched by a public sector bank," the lender said in a statement. "Bank of Baroda EaseMyTrip Debit Card is a reflection of our endeavour to provide distinctive and curated bespoke benefits to meet the aspirations of today's consumer," said Sanjay Mudaliar, Executive Director, BoB.

TVS Motor prices base variant of Ronin bike at ₹1.35 lakh

As part of its festival offer, TVS Motor Company has announced a special pricing of ₹1,35,000 (ex-showroom New Delhi) on the base variant of the Ronin motorcycle. "While this festive edition adds excitement to the range, our special pricing for the base variant makes the motorcycle more accessible for customers who seek the unique design, cutting edge technology and connected features of the TVS Ronin," said Vimal Sumbly, Head of Business - Premium.

Casagrand Premier Builder files DRHP for ₹1,100-cr. IPO

Casagrand Premier Builder has filed a draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) with SEBI to raise ₹1,100 crore. About ₹150 crore from the proceeds will be used to clear certain outstanding debts availed by the company and ₹650 crore by its wholly owned subsidiaries and step-down subsidiaries, the residential sector developer said in a statement. The IPO comprises fresh issue of ₹1,000 crore and an offer for sale of ₹100 crore by the promoter selling shareholders.

Most GST notices due to data mismatches: CBIC top official

Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) will utilise technology to resolve such mismatches, says board member Shashank Priya; GST Network to create reverse charge ledger

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

A majority of show-cause notices issued to taxpayers under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) last year related to 'data discrepancies' in tax returns, and efforts were underway to use technology to resolve mismatches and mitigate the resultant disputes as well as 'pain points for taxpayers,' said Special Secretary and Member (GST) of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) Shashank Priya.

Less taxing

Data verification issues led to most of the 1.13 lakh GST show-cause notices in 2023-24, says CBIC official

- Classification disputes on tax rates were responsible for just 555 of the 1.13 lakh notices
- Six of the seven major areas of dispute related to data discrepancies, as per a CBIC analysis
- The GST Network is also working on introducing a new register for solving RCM issues

Just 555 of the almost 1.13 lakh notices issued to GST taxpayers pertained to classification disputes.

"So, policy-level disputes are much less, and it is more the disputes are relating to how we are doing our data verification," observed Mr. Priya.

A CBIC analysis showed six of the seven major areas of dispute resulting in show-cause notices related to data discrepancies such as "short payment of GST in GSTR 3B compared with GSTR1 liability, he said at an Assocham event.

The GST Network (GSTN) is working on a new register for solving RCM issues by creating a ledger reflecting reverse charges with a functionality to disallow taking ITC (input tax credit) beyond what is available to the taxpayers, the CBIC member informed the audience.

S&P retains India FY25 GDP growth view at 6.8%

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

S&P Global Ratings on Tuesday retained its GDP growth projection for India at 6.8% for 2024-25 and 6.9% next year, even as it cut its view on China's growth trajectory over the next few years in its latest quarterly update for the Asia-Pacific region.

S&P also continues to expect two interest rate cuts of 25 basis points each from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in this fiscal year, with the first rate cut likely as early as October, even as it noted that inflation pressures were yet to recede. Stressing that interest rate differentials with the U.S. remain uncomfortable, the firm said India was one of the few economies in the region with policy rates above the U.S.

"In India, GDP growth moderated in the June quarter as high interest rates temper urban demand, in line with our projection of 6.8% GDP for the full fiscal year," wrote Louis Kuijs, Asia-Pacific chief economist at S&P Global Ratings. "The July Budget confirmed that the government remains committed to fiscal consolidation and to keeping the focus of public expenditure on infrastructure.

"The RBI considers food inflation a hurdle for rate cuts. It reckons that unless there is a lasting and meaningful decline in the rate at which food prices are increasing it will be tough to maintain headline inflation at 4%," Mr. Kuijs noted.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	84,914	-0.01
US Dollar	83.63	-0.10
Gold	76,950	0.00
Brent oil	74.91	1.76

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	3093.90	49.95
Adani Ports	1456.65	0.50
Apollo Hosp	7122.00	-30.80
Asian Paints	3248.40	-29.05
Axis Bank	1239.55	-7.25
Bajaj Auto	12443.65	104.70
Bajaj Finserv	1904.65	-15.30
Bajaj Finance	7554.20	-40.90
Bharti Airtel	1756.65	6.20
BPCL	339.15	1.05
Britannia Ind	6203.15	-8.05
Cipla	1637.55	-20.60
Coal India	504.30	3.70
Divis Lab	5375.80	2.95
Dr Reddys Lab	6650.35	-4.10
Eicher Motors	4876.90	-2.65
Grasim Ind	2619.30	-47.60
HCL Tech	1775.60	22.80
HDFC Bank	1768.05	8.25
HDFC Life	720.70	-6.80
Hero MotoCorp	6126.30	-64.25
Hindalco	717.85	27.30
Hind Unilever	2950.55	-78.00
ICICI Bank	1318.60	-3.30
IndusInd Bank	1448.30	-16.80
Infosys	1898.60	2.15
ITC	515.25	-1.70
JSW Steel	989.70	7.60
Kotak Bank	1914.70	-20.00
L&T	3791.60	3.90
LTIMindtree Ltd.	6344.10	18.00
M&M	3074.30	24.50
Maruti Suzuki	12738.60	55.50
NestleIndia	2696.40	-28.75
NTPC	428.10	-0.25
ONGC	299.45	4.00
PowerGrid Corp	350.05	8.90
Reliance Ind	2978.75	-8.00
SBI Life	1864.35	-55.80
State Bank	798.25	-3.60
Shriram Finance Ltd.	3516.30	-51.40
Sun Pharma	1868.10	5.40
TataConsumerProduct	1211.65	0.10
Tata Motors	977.30	5.50
Tata Steel	160.53	6.54
TCS	4271.30	2.80
Tech Mahindra	1637.10	29.95
Titan	3784.90	-35.20
UltraTech Cement	11761.65	-200.40
Wipro	539.55	4.65

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on September 24

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.47	83.79
Euro	92.88	93.24
British Pound	111.56	111.99
Japanese Yen (100)	58.00	58.23
Chinese Yuan	11.87	11.92
Swiss Franc	98.45	98.83
Singapore Dollar	64.77	65.03
Canadian Dollar	61.78	62.02
Malaysian Ringitt	20.06	20.17
Australian Dollar	57.15	57.37

Source:Indian Bank

'SBI has credit demand from India Inc. for ₹4 lakh-crore'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

SBI Chairman C. S. Setty said the bank has already got ₹4 lakh crore-strong credit pipeline from India Inc., adding capital expenditure by private sector is expected to pick up in the second half of the fiscal.

"We see a good amount of interest in private capital expenditure. Infrastructure financing, of course, is mainly coming from the roads, renewable energy, and some of the refineries," he told PTI.

Drive to curb tax disputes begins as SC disposes of 573 appeals

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

4,341 direct tax cases and 1,044 legacy central excise and service tax cases are to be withdrawn

Following the Budget move to revise the monetary limit for filing appeals in tax litigation matters, the Supreme Court on Tuesday disposed of 573 direct tax cases where the tax effect was less than ₹5 crore, the Finance Ministry said.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had enhanced the monetary limits for filing appeals related to direct taxes, excise and service tax matters to ₹60 lakh, ₹2 crore and ₹5 crore, in tax tribunals, High Courts and the Supreme Court, respectively. These limits were earlier pegged at ₹50 lakh, ₹1 crore and ₹2 crore, respectively.

With the Central Boards of Direct Taxes, and Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBDT and CBIC) issuing orders to execute the decision, as many as 4,341 direct tax cases and 1,044 legacy central excise and service tax cases pending before various appellate fora will be withdrawn over the course of time, the Ministry said.

Nearly 1,100 of these cases are pending with the apex court. "These measures on the direct and indirect tax front are expected to significantly reduce the burden of tax litigation and expedite the resolution of tax disputes. In addition, steps have been taken to deploy more officers dedicated to hearing and deciding appeals, particularly those involving significant tax amounts," the Ministry informed.

Hyundai unit begins export of Exter to South Africa

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Hyundai Motor India Ltd. (HMIL) said it had begun export of its Exter SUV to South Africa with the dispatch of 996 units.

This is the eighth model to be exported to South Africa from India, after Grand i10 Nios, Aura, i20, i20 N Line, Venue, Venue Line and Alcazar, said the South Korean carmaker.

"South Africa has been an important export market for HMIL," said Function Head Corporate Planning, Jae Wan Ryu.

Within a year of its unveiling, Exter has surpassed the milestone of one lakh sales in India.

'Mismatch in deposit, credit to boost bank bond issues in FY25'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

For FY25, banks' total bond issues were ₹76,700 crore, representing a YoY growth of 225%

Bond issuance by banks to deal with the mismatch between deposit and credit growth is expected to reach an all-time high of ₹1.2-1.3 lakh crore in FY25, surpassing the earlier high of ₹1.1 lakh crore in FY23, rating agency ICRA said.

"Tight liquidity conditions and credit growth continuously surpassing deposit growth has necessitated fundraising by banks from alternative sources. For FY25 (YTD), banks' total bond issuances were ₹76,700 crore, registering a YoY growth of 225% and reaching 75% of the total issuances done in FY24," ICRA said.

With private banks focusing on reducing credit-to-deposit ratio, fund-raising through bonds is largely dominated by public banks this year.

The Centre's continued focus on infrastructure, availability of a sizeable infrastructure loan book and strong demand from insurers and provident funds support the issuances.

Fresh guidance on IT imports soon: DGFT

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India on Tuesday announced a three-month extension of its 'Import Management System' for specified IT hardware equipment such as laptops and servers, citing 'security concerns' to monitor inbound shipments dominated by Chinese products.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) said in a circular that the import mechanism, which was to expire on September 30, had been extended till December 31. "Importers would be required to apply for fresh authorisations for the period from 01.01.2025 subject to detailed guidance to be provided shortly," it said.

Spices Board targets annual export of $25 billion by 2047

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

The Spices Board is targeting $25-billion worth annual export of spices and spice-based products by 2047 from $4.4 billion now, said its Director-Development Dharmendra Das.

At the United Planters Association of Southern India's (UPASI) annual conference held in Coonoor recently, Mr. Das said that annual production of spices should be increased to 17 million tonnes (MT) to meet India's demand of about 13 MT and export of 2.7 MT by 2047. India currently consumes 10 MT and exports 1.42 MT.

Dharmendra Das

Ginger exports are the fastest growing with a CAGR of 27%, while the top export earnings are from chilli ($ 1.1 billion), he said.

The board will focus on enabling a sustainable, safe and chemical-free export supply chain and promote innovative and value-added products, he added.

NMDC eyes 50 MT output in FY2025

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

State-owned NMDC with a record 45 million tonne (MT) iron ore output last fiscal, is eyeing 50 MT in FY25, CMD Amitava Mukherjee said on Tuesday.

"The journey from hereon will be guided by an ambitious growth strategy. The company is investing in capacity expansion and new infrastructure to augment capacity to 72 MT from existing iron ore mines while also developing NCL (NMDC CMDC Ltd.) JV mines to contribute another 28 MT," he said, at the firm's 66 annual general meeting.

Leveraging strengths and optimising constraints will drive achieving 100 MT production capacity by 2030, he said. This target aligns with the national steel policy vision to raise India's steel production capacity to 300 MT by 2030.

He added NMDC would transition to slurry pipelines and rail from roads to reduce carbon emissions in its supply chains. Progress in this direction is underway with doubling of the Kirandul-Kothavalasa railway line set to be completed in FY25 and the 15 MTPA slurry pipeline from Bacheli to Visakhapatnam set to be readied in FY27.

In FY24, NMDC produced 45.02 MT and sold 44.48 MT of iron ore, a 10% and 16% rise respectively compared with FY23.

THE HINDU GROUP
CELEBRATING 146 YEARS OF TRUST
ANNIVERSARY
SALE
up to 50% off*
ON THE HINDU GROUP'S SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS
FROM SEPTEMBER 14 TO 29, 2024
ISRO: EXPLORING NEW FRONTIERS
SHREE JAGANNATHA
LORD OF THE UNIVERSE
CHOLAS
Their art, temples and heritage
MASTERS OF THE 64 SQUARES
HINDU DEITIES WORSHIPPED IN JAPAN
SRIRANGAM
THE ART OF INDIA
PROFILES
FAQ
ANALYSES & EXPLAINERS
Stack up your living room with our specially-curated books
For bulk booking and enquiries, contact us at bookstore@thehindu.co.in or 1800 102 1878
To avail this limited period offer, scan QR code or visit https://newsth.live/THBookStore
*Offer only for select books | Shipping charges applicable | Terms and Conditions apply

GENEVA

Tens of thousands of Lebanese are fleeing Israeli bombings, says UN

AFP

Tens of thousands of people have fled their homes in Lebanon as Israeli strikes pummelled the country, the UN said, calling events "extremely alarming". "We are gravely concerned about the serious escalation in the attacks that we saw yesterday," UN refugee agency spokesman Matthew Saltmarsh said in Geneva. AFP

BANGKOK

'Monumental step' as Thai king signs same-sex marriage into law

AFP

The Thai king has signed same-sex marriage into law, making Thailand the first country in Southeast Asia to recognise marriage equality. King Maha Vajiralongkorn gave royal assent to the new law, passed by parliament in June, which will take effect in 120 days — meaning the first weddings will take place in January. AFP

VATICAN CITY

Pope offers refuge to Myanmar's jailed Suu Kyi in Vatican: report

AFP

Pope Francis has offered to give refuge on Vatican territory to Myanmar's detained former leader Aung San Suu Kyi, Italian media said on Tuesday. "I asked for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi and I met her son in Rome. I have proposed to the Vatican to give her shelter on our territory," the pope said. AFP

TOKYO

Japan seeks safety of its citizens in China after boy is stabbed to death

AFP

Japan's top diplomat Yoko Kamikawa asked China to ensure the safety of Japanese citizens there after the fatal stabbing of a Japanese schoolboy, and demanded a crackdown on "anti-Japanese" social media posts. China's Foreign Ministry said the attack was an isolated case and urged Japan to react calmly. AP

Top Hezbollah commander killed as toll from Israeli strikes rises to 560

The Lebanese militant group says it launched missiles overnight and in the morning at eight sites in Israel, including an explosives factory located 60 km from the border; Israel says it targeted sites where Hezbollah had stored weapons

Associated Press
BEIRUT

Israel said it killed a top commander with Hezbollah's missile and rocket unit on Tuesday as the Israeli military traded fire with Hezbollah again and the death toll from a massive Israeli bombardment climbed to nearly 560 people.

Military officials said Ibrahim Kobeisi, who they alleged was responsible for launches towards Israel, was killed in a strike on Beirut. The military said "other key commanders" were with Kobeisi at the time of the strike, but officials did not say whether any of the others were killed or wounded.

Final rites: Relatives carry the body of a young girl, killed in an Israeli air strike, during her funeral procession in Lebanon. AP

Meanwhile, thousands of people fled from southern Lebanon with the two sides on the brink of all-out war.

Displaced families slept in shelters hastily set up in schools in Beirut and the coastal city of Sidon. With hotels quickly booked to capacity or rooms priced beyond the means of many families, those who did not find shelter slept in their cars, in parks or along the seaside.

Meanwhile, the border crossing with Syria saw massive traffic jams as a result of people escaping from Lebanon to the neighbouring country.

The Lebanese militant group Hezbollah said it launched missiles overnight and in the morning at eight sites in Israel, including an explosives factory in Zichron Yaakov, 60 km from the border.

The Israeli military said on Tuesday morning that 55 rockets were fired from Lebanon into northern Israel, setting fires and damaging buildings. Galilee Medical Center, a north Israel hospital, said two patients arrived with minor head injuries from a rocket falling near their car. Several others were being treated for light injuries.

Israeli military officials said they carried out dozens of air strikes on Hezbollah targets, including on a cell that fired rockets overnight, and that tanks and artillery struck targets near the border.

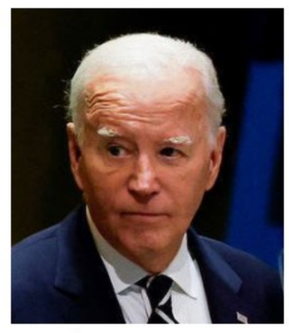
They also said they carried out a "targeted strike" in Beirut without giving details.

Israel said it targeted sites where Hezbollah had stored weapons. Data from American fire-tracking satellites analyzed Tuesday by The Associated Press showed the wide range of Israeli airstrikes aimed at southern Lebanon, covering an area of over 1,700 square km.

World is at an 'inflection point', Biden says in final UN speech

Sriram Lakshman
UNITED NATIONS

In his fourth and final address to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) as U.S. President, Joe Biden said the world was at an inflection point. He asked the warring parties in West Asia to accept the peace deal and urged continued support for Ukraine.



Joe Biden

Mr. Biden used his speech to outline some of his decisions in office and to warn of future challenges, even as he expressed optimism about facing them. Addressing the 79th session of the Assembly, Mr. Biden also used his speech to explain his decision not to run for a second term.

"I truly believe we are at another inflection point in world history," he said. "The choices we make today will determine our future for decades to come", he added.

Mr. Biden spoke of having seen a "remarkable sweep of history", as he joked about his age.

Mr. Biden called for continued support to Ukraine against Russia's aggression.

He called on Israel and Hamas to finalise the terms of a peace deal and to address the condition of innocent Palestinians in the West Bank facing violence. "Now is the time for the parties to finalise its terms, bring hostages home and secure security for Israel, a Gaza free of Hamas's grip, ease the suffering in Gaza, end this war, " he said.

Global crises

Mr. Biden also urged Sudanese generals to stop fighting and blocking aid to the Sudanese people.

He called on countries to assist African nations fight Mpox and for regulating the safe use of Artificial Intelligence, including, to prevent its misuse by authoritarians.

Mr. Biden also pushed for reform at the United Nations.

While describing his term in office, Mr Biden defended his administration's withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan, acknowledging the loss of life the withdrawal had caused.

Dissanayake picks MP Harini Amarasuriya as PM

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

President Anura Kumara Dissanayake on Tuesday appointed MP and former academic Harini Amarasuriya as Sri Lanka's Prime Minister, as part of a four-member Cabinet under him that will lead policy until the parliamentary elections scheduled on November 14. The date for the general elections was announced through a gazette issued late on Tuesday, which said the parliament would be dissolved from midnight.

After Sri Lankans elected Mr. Dissanayake to the country's top office in the September 21 presidential polls, he resigned as a Member of Parliament, and a National People's Power [NPP] member took his place. The NPP alliance has three MPs in the 225-member legislature, which is expected to be dissolved soon in preparation for the conduct of the general elections.

New honour: Sri Lankan Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya at her swearing-in ceremony in Colombo on Tuesday. REUTERS

President Dissanayake holds several key portfolios, including Defence, Finance, Energy, Agriculture and Fisheries. Prime Minister Amarasuriya will helm Ministries, including Justice, Education, Health, and Trade. MP Vijitha Herath will handle Foreign Affairs, among other Ministries, an official statement said.

Third woman PM

Ms. Amarasuriya, 54,is Sri Lanka's third woman Prime Minister, after Sirimavo Bandaranaike – one of the first woman leaders in the world – and her daughter Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, who held the post briefly, before being elected President.

An anthropologist by training, Ms. Amarasuriya taught at the Open University of Sri Lanka, until she became a member of Parliament through the country's "national list" system that allocates seats based on a party's vote share.

Many in Sri Lanka, including in the political opposition, welcomed the appointment of Ms. Amarasuriya as PM. In a congratulatory message on social media platform 'X', Leader of Opposition Sajith Premadasa said: "I hope your appointment will inspire women of Sri Lanka to bring their talents, strength, and vision to the forefront."

The new PM obtained her bachelor's degree in sociology in India, at Hindu College, University of Delhi. She pursued her master's in Australia and obtained a PhD from the University of Edinburgh.

'Brilliant student'

Jonathan Spencer, a long-time scholar of Sri Lanka and an emeritus professor at the University of Edinburgh, who supervised Ms. Amarasuriya's doctoral degree, described her as someone with "extraordinary capabilities".

"I have known Harini for nearly 20 years as a brilliant student and a close friend. She is a person who combines enormous integrity and striking emotional intelligence. The task facing her is extraordinarily challenging, but she is a woman of extraordinary capacities," he told *The Hindu* via email.

Prior to her entry into active politics, Ms. Amarasuriya worked for many years in the development sector, researching child protection issues and later, low-income communities in Colombo. Following her PhD, she joined Sri Lanka's public university system, where she taught sociology and anthropology.

Prominent activist

She was a prominent activist in the professional body of university teachers, participating in many campaigns, including strike action demanding higher investment in public education.

The newly elected President and his small team, including the Prime Minister, that has just assumed charge, face huge challenges, as the country grapples with the impact of the 2022 economic crisis, and citizens struggle to cope with painful austerity measures that came as part of an International Monetary Fund-led programme.

Army chief bats for Yunus, moots polls in 18 months in Dhaka

Reuters
DHAKA

Bangladesh's Army chief vowed to back the country's interim government "come what may" to help it complete key reforms after the ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, so that elections could be held within the next 18 months.

General Waker-uz-Zaman and his troops stood aside in early August amid raging student-led protests against Ms. Hasina, sealing the fate of the veteran politician who resigned after 15 years in power and fled to neighbouring India.

In an interview, Mr. Zaman told Reuters at his office on Monday that the interim administration led by Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus had his full support and outlined a pathway to rid the military of political influence.

GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
'e' Procurement Tender Notice No.24/2024-25/SE(W-IV)/EE-VIII/DB/Dt.23-09-2024
Tender Notice No.: 24/2024-25/SE(W-IV)/EE-VIII/DB/GVMC, Dt.23-09-2024
Number of works - 01, Value of works Rs.163.84 Lakhs
Tender Opening Dt.24-09-2024, Closing Date: 10-10-2024.
Note : Further details at http://www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in
O/o. the EE-VIII Cell No.9848933239. For Commissioner, GVMC

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, SOUTHERN (R&B) CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR
Phone: 0680-2281582, e-mail: ccescbam@gmail.com
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB) [e-Procurement]
Bid Identification No. CCE, S.C (R&B)-BAM-05/2024-25 No.3311//Dated:19.09.2024

1. The Chief Construction Engineer, Southern (R&B) Circle, Berhampur on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Road Works as detailed in the table below.
2. Nature of work : Road Works
3. No. of work : 06 Nos.
4. Tender Cost : Rs.10,000/- (online)
5. Class of Contractor : "B" Class & "A" Class
6. Availability of Bid document in the website. : From 30.09.2024 10.00 AM to 14.10.2024 5.30 PM
7. Date of Opening of Bid : 15.10.2024 at 11.30 A.M.
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website https://tendersodisha.gov.in.
9. Any Addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.

Sd/- (Ashis Kumar Nayak)
Chief Construction Engineer (I/C), Southern (R&B) Circle, Berhampur.
B-317: OIPR-34103/11/0005/2425

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (जिला), आं.प्र. / SRIHARIKOTA - 524124
संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE
सं.शार:सीएमजी सिविल: अनुरक्षण: ई–जन निविदा / No:SHAR:CMGCIVIL:MAINT:E-PT-06/24-25 तिथि/ Date. 23.09.2024
भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से "वर्ष 2024-2026 के लिए एसडीएससी शार के एसएलपी, एएसएलवी, एसआरसी, दूरमिति तथा सुरक्षा सीमा चौकी क्षेत्रों में सिविल एवं जन स्वास्थ्य के लिए एएमसी" (टी/सी–24-027, अनुमानित लागत ₹72.93 लाख), "एसडीएससी शार में गेट 1 से टीएसबी भवन जंक्शन तक एमएस ग्रिल बाड़े के साथ बाड़े को बदलना" (टी/सी–24-028, अनुमानित लागत ₹23.37 लाख), "एसडीएससी शार के वीएबी में 5 शौचालयों का नवीनीकरण तथा पीएसएलवी पूर्वी द्वार में शौचालयों का निर्माण" (टी/सी–24-029, अनुमानित लागत ₹23.10 लाख), "एसडीएससी शार में एसएमपीसी अहाता दीवार से नवाबपेट बस टर्मिनेशन तक उत्तरपूर्व ट्रैक का पुनः सतहीकरण एवं सड़क पट्टियों के लिए बी.सी. प्रदान करना एवं लेटेराइट पत्थर से पक्का करना" (टी/सी–24-030, अनुमानित लागत ₹41.00 लाख), "एसडीएससी शार, गेट 1 गोल चक्कर पर संकेतक प्रदान करना" (टी/सी–24-031, अनुमानित लागत ₹7.85 लाख) हेतु मद दर ई–निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा दस्तावेजों को 10.10.2024 को 14:30 बजे तक डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। इच्छुक निविदाकार विस्तृत सूचना के लिए हमारी वेबसाइट www.isro.gov.in या www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO देखें।
On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for "AMC for Civil & PH works at SLP, ASLV, SRC, Telemetry & Security outpost areas for 2024-2026, SDSC SHAR" (T/C-24-027, Est. cost ₹72.93 Lakhs); "Replacement of fencing with MS grill fencing from Gate 1 to TSB building junction, SDSC SHAR" (T/C-24-028, Est. cost ₹23.37 Lakhs); "Renovation 5 Nos of Toilets in VAB & Construction of toilets at PSLV East gate, SDSC SHAR" (T/C-24-029, Est. cost ₹23.10 Lakhs); "Resurfacing of North security track & providing B.C for road patches and laterite stone revetment at SMPC compound wall to Nawabpet bus termination point at SDSC SHAR" (T/C-24-030, Est. cost ₹41.00 Lakhs); "Providing Signage on Gate 1 circle, SDSC SHAR" (T/C-24-031, Est. cost ₹7.85 Lakhs). Tender documents can be downloaded up to 10.10.2024, 14:30 hrs. Interested tenderers may visit www.isro.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO for details.
हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR

कार्यालय, निदेशक, होम्योपैथी, उ0प्र0,
इन्दिरा भवन, आठॅवा तल, अशोक मार्ग, लखनऊ।
विज्ञप्ति
यू0पी0 आयुष यू0जी0 काउंसिलिंग-2024 के प्रथम चक्र की ऑनलाईन काउंसिलिंग की संशोधित समय-सारणी।
उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य के राजकीय/निजी क्षेत्र के आयुर्वेदिक, यूनानी एवं होम्योपैथिक मेडिकल कालेजों/निजी क्षेत्र के विश्वविद्यालयों/अल्पसंख्यक संस्थानों के यू0जी0 पाठ्यक्रमों (बी0ए0एम0एस0, बी0यू0एम0एस0 एवं बी0एच0एम0एस0) में प्रवेश हेतु प्रथम चक्र की ऑनलाईन काउंसिलिंग की संशोधित समय-सारणी निम्नवत् है:-

प्रथम काउन्सिलिंग चक्र

क्र.सं.	विवरण	दिनॉक/समय	कुल दिवस
1	ऑनलाइन पंजीकरण एवं अभिलेख अपलोड करने की तिथि	दिनांक 25.09.2024 को पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से दिनॉक 28.09.2024 को अपराहन 03.00 बजे तक	04
2	धरोहर धनराशि जमा करने की तिथि	दिनॉक 25.09.2024 को पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 28.09.2024 को रात्रि 11.59 बजे तक	04
3	आनलाइन अभिलेखों का सत्यापन	दिनॉक 26.09.2024 से दिनांक 28.9.2024 तक (प्रात: 09.00 बजे से सायं 05.00 बजे तक) तथा दिनांक 29.09.2024 को पूर्वाह्न 09.00 बजे से अपराहन 01.00 बजे तक।	04
4	पंजीकृत अभ्यर्थियों की मेरिट सूची (State Merit List) का प्रकाशन	दिनॉक 29.09.2024	–
5	ऑनलाइन च्वाईस फिलिंग (वरीयता विकल्प) भरने एवं सीट लॉक करने की तिथि	दिनांक 30.09.2024 को पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से दिनॉक 02.10.2024 को रात्रि 11.59 बजे तक	03
6	अनंतिम सीट आवंटन सूची/सूचियों का प्रकाशन	दिनॉक 03.10.2024 को सायं 05.00 बजे तक	–
7	नोडल सेन्टर पर अभ्यर्थियों के मूल अभिलेखों का सत्यापन	दिनॉक 04.10.2024 से दिनॉक 07.10.2024 तक (प्रात: 09.00 बजे से सायं 05.00 बजे तक)	04
8	आवंटन पत्र डाउनलोड करने एवं आवंटित संस्था में प्रवेश की अन्तिम तिथि	दिनॉक 04.10.2024 से दिनॉक 09.10.2024 को सायं 05.00 बजे तक	06
9	प्रवेशित अभ्यर्थी द्वारा अपग्रेडेशन हेतु सहमति भरने की अन्तिम तिथि	दिनॉक 09.10.2024 को रात्रि 11.59 बजे तक	–
10	अपग्रेडेशन परिणाम घोषित करने की तिथि	दिनॉक 10.10.2024 को अपराह्न 01.00 बजे तक	–
11	नोडल सेंटर पर नवीन आवंटन प्राप्त (अपग्रेडेड) अभ्यर्थियों के मूल अभिलेखों का सत्यापन	दिनांक 11.10.2024 को प्रात: 09.00 बजे से सायं 05.00 बजे तक	01
12	अपग्रेडेड आवंटन पत्र डाउनलोड करने एवं आवंटित संस्था में प्रवेश की अन्तिम तिथि	दिनॉक 11.10.2024 से दिनांक 14.10.2024 को सायं 05. 00 बजे तक	04

नोट- अभिलेखों का भौतिक सत्यापन काउंसिलिंग के नोडल सेन्टर राजकीय नेशनल होम्योपैथिक मेडिकल कालेज, हैनीमन चौराहा, विराज खण्ड, गोमती नगर, लखनऊ है। विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये काउंसिलिंग की अधिकृत वेबसाइट-www.upayushcounseling.upsdc.gov.in पर अवलोकन करें। इसके लिये यू0पी0 आयुष यू0जी0 काउंसिलिंग-2024 का शासनादेश, विवरण-पुस्तिका (ब्रोशर) तथा महत्वपूर्ण निर्देश अधिकृत वेबसाइट-www.upayushcounseling.upsdc.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।
दिनांक 23.09.2014
(प्रो0 अरविन्द कुमार वर्मा)
निदेशक, होम्योपैथी
उ0प्र0/सदस्य सचिव।
UPID-219796/23.09.2024 www.upgov.nic.in

BRIGHT FUTURE

We can call it a golden era. Everyone stepped up their game: Vidit

FILE PHOTO

Vidit Gujrathi believes that the golden era of chess has just begun for the country. "We can call it a golden era for Indian chess, as gold has been won. The same team competed in the Asian Games, but I think everyone has stepped up their game over the past year. We were winning by significant margins, and it was a dominant performance."

'RELAXED RANCHO'

Rahul *bhai* was regimented, Gambhir is relaxed: Ashwin

FILE PHOTO: K.R. DEEPAK

Gautam Gambhir is more relaxed than his predecessor Rahul Dravid, who had a "regimented" style of functioning, feels R. Ashwin. "I feel he (Gambhir) is very relaxed. I want to call him 'relaxed rancho'. There's no pressure at all," Ashwin said on his YouTube channel.

MAJOR INFLUENCE

Need to try and keep Pant quiet in Australia, says Cummins

R. RAGU

Pat Cummins acknowledged that Rishabh Pant has been a "major influence" in India's back-to-back Test series wins in Australia. "He's someone that has a big influence and we have got to try and keep him quiet. Someone like Pant might play a reverse slap and that's just a part of who he is," Cummins told *Star Sports*.

BIG SCORE

Carey blasts Australia to 304 in third ODI against England

GETTY IMAGES

Alex Carey smashed an unbeaten 77 to take Australia to 304 for seven against England in the third One-Day International at Chester-le-Street on Tuesday.
The scores: Australia 304/7 in 50 overs (Smith 60, Green 42, Carey 77 n.o., Hardie 44) vs. England.

Winning gold at Olympiad was one of my goals this year: Gukesh

He says putting Arjun on the third board was the Indian non-playing captain Srinath's brainwave; the 18-year-old is confident about his chances against Ding Liren in the World championship match scheduled from Nov. 23

CHESS

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

Joyful homecoming: GM Gukesh shows off the gold medals he won in the chess Olympiad. M.SRINATH

GM D. Gukesh was the lodestar in the Chess Olympiad along with Arjun Erigaisi for the Indian men's team. The two playing on board one and three respectively in Budapest, won the individual gold medals while guiding the team to a historic first place finish.

And the celebrations at the prize distribution function where Tania Sachdev and Gukesh made a Messi-like walk proved how much the team (men & women) wanted the gold medals.

Gukesh said not being able to win gold in Chennai Olympiad in 2022 was a great regret especially after coming so close.

"It is very special. We had players in both men and women who had played in quite a few Olympiads and not won it. It was a great regret for them and for me too. I really wanted to win gold this time. It was one of the biggest goals this year.

"Finally, we did it as a team. With Harika akka having played so many Olympiads (she has played in 10), and winning for the first time was special for her. It was very emotional and the celebrations were just our emotions taking over," said the 18-year-old at the Chennai Airport on Tuesday, after being felicitated by SDAT, Tamil Nadu State Chess Associaton and Velammal Group.

According to Gukesh, putting Arjun on board three instead of board one and him on board one despite Arjun being the higher rated player, was basically the non-playing captain N. Srinath's brainwave.

"It was basically Srinath's idea. The players all thought that it was the obvious strategy to go for. The reasons are clear. Arjun has more experience playing against slightly lower-rated opponents in open tournaments and is more skilful in outplaying them with both colours. Pragg (Praggnanandhaa) and I have more experience playing against the top players. In that sense, both Pragg (board 2) and me (board one) were quite solid. We knew that on board three, if Arjun was in good form he would crush the opponents," said Gukesh.

Explaining the role of Srinath, Gukesh said: "Srinath's role cannot be underestimated. He comes up with board order, takes care of all press conferences and makes sure everyone is in good spirits. He made sure that the team got together," said the World championship challenger.

On the FIDE World championship scheduled in November (Nov. 23 to Dec. 15) in Singapore against China's Ding Liren, Gukesh sounded confident. "I can say that me and my team are doing some nice work, having fun together, which is important. We still have two months left," he said.

'Absolute domination by both the Indian teams'

V.V. Subrahmanyam
HYDERABAD

Surreal: Harikrishna poses with the trophy and the medal at the Olympiad. FIDE

Winning a gold in the Chess Olympiad should be treated on par with any gold in Olympics, feels P. Harikrishna, the senior most member of the Indian squad (both men and women put together) which finished with a 'golden double' in the just-concluded Chess Olympiad in Hungary.

The 38-year-old Harikrishna, who was the reserve player of the men's team which won the gold and played in his own way a significant role in the team's success story as a 'reserve', said that Olympiad being the biggest in terms of competition, standard and also the number of countries taking part in it (about 190 countries) always stood as a special and very challenging championship.

"This is the result of efforts over the last one year. In a team event, player communication besides respective strengths plays a major role," Hari said. "The key to success was to play well as a unit and we showed great team spirit," Hari informed *The Hindu* from Prague.

"Ever since I first played in my first Olympiad in 2000, I always dreamt of standing on the medal podium. Glad, it was better late than never when after 24 years I had the chance of being there and that too with the gold."

"For me, this is the biggest achievement, especially in a team event," he said. "What stood apart from the rest of the crowd was this Indian team, which was the same which we played in the Asian Games and bagged a silver, didn't have any weak spot," Hari said.

"There was absolutely no pressure on anyone. The level of gameplay by the Indians was just of a different kind. And, it was obvious that after six or seven rounds, we could sense a feeling amongst the opponents that they had to be extra cautious. And, perhaps, this led to some of them making a few crucial errors," Hari explained. "The opponents were not just given any easy chances to come back into the games," he added.

"It was absolute domination by both the men's and women's teams. We have had phenomenal talent. What a fantastic sight it was and should augur well for Indian chess," Hari said.

On his role as a reserve player, the former World junior champion said that he was glad that he could provide the confidence to the players and a feeling that they could bank on him in case of any exigency.

Harmanpreet confident of team's chances at the WC

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Ready to rock: Harmanpreet signs on the 2017 ODI World Cup Indian team's photo frame ahead of the departure. EMMANUAL YOGINI

The last time India's women cricketers played in an international match may have been two months ago. Having worked on the team and the individuals, captain Harmanpreet Kaur and head coach Amol Muzumdar stressed in unison that the squad was ready to achieve its ultimate objective of a World Cup triumph next month.

"For us, preparation matters a lot. We want to win the World Cup and we are looking for positive results. But at the same time, process matters a lot and in the last couple of weeks, we have really worked hard and are looking forward for the World Cup," Harmanpreet said here on Tuesday, hours before the squad's scheduled departure to United Arab Emirates for the T20 World Cup. The women's T20 World Cup – having been moved from Bangladesh to UAE due to internal issues in Bangladesh – will be played from October 4 to 24.

Muzumdar concurred. "As far as preparations are concerned, we are absolutely prepared for anything and everything. All I can say is that we are ready to fly to Dubai."

Despite being a regular in the knockouts in World Cup of both the formats, India's women are yet to emerge triumphant in a World Cup. Perhaps in a bid to break the knockouts hoodoo, renowned sports psychologist Mugdha Bavare was roped in during the preparatory camp in Bengaluru.

Harmanpreet explained that the sessions with Bavare focused on delivering as a team, while Muzumdar added that Bavare's previous stints with the women's squad helped a great deal.

With India's last international game being played in July in Sri Lanka, Muzumdar stated that the last 15-day camp with five warm-games have helped the girls be match-ready.

"We had five games in 10 days, so if you ask for game-time, we have ticked that box. And we played some very competitive games. There were different oppositions, there were different skill-sets that were chosen for those particular games. So as far as game time is concerned, I think we are on it."

'Rockstar' Jadeja on the cusp of a landmark

S. Dipak Ragav
KANPUR

Impact player: Jadeja is just a wicket away from entering the 300-club. R. RAGU

It is not often a player flies under the radar despite scoring a vital 86 when the team was struggling at 144 for five in the first innings of a Test and then chips in with five wickets in the match.

Even though the focus was on the spectacular performances of R. Ashwin (113 & six for 88), Shubman Gill (119 n.o.), and Rishabh Pant (109) in India's win over Bangladesh in Chennai, Ravindra Jadeja unassumingly went about his work, showing why he is the top-ranked all-rounder in the world.

Alongside Ashwin, Jadeja forged a match-defining 199-run partnership for the seventh wicket before picking up the two key wickets in the first innings to help India secure a 227-run lead. It was the platform on which Rohit Sharma's men paved their path to a 280-run victory.

Since his comeback in 2018 for the fifth Test against England at The Oval – he was dropped for the first four – the 35-year-old has become a vital cog in India's Test machine.

Considered one of the best fielders, Jadeja has shown tremendous improvement to cement his status as India's premier all-rounder.

Since September 2018, in 37 matches, the southpaw has scored 1926 runs at an impressive average of 43.77 while picking up 128 wickets (avg 25.16). During this period, he scored all four of his centuries and took as many five-wicket hauls.

Ashwin, who has often had to make way for the left-hander in overseas Tests in the last few years, paid rich compliments to his teammate after the first match. "Over the last three to four years, when he went into bat, I felt so good in the dressing room. You feel so calm and composed when he is batting. He has brought that kind of assurance," said Ashwin.

Now, ahead of the second Test in Kanpur (Sept. 27 to Oct. 1), the Saurashtra all-rounder is on the cusp of a significant landmark. Jadeja is a wicket away from entering the 300-wicket club.

Recently, head coach Gautam Gambhir observed that India was obsessed with finding the next pace-bowling all-rounder like Kapil Dev and in the process has not celebrated the likes of Jadeja and Ashwin.

During IPL's first edition in 2008, Jadeja was nicknamed 'Rockstar' by his Rajasthan Royals skipper Shane Warne. When he makes it to the elite list of players (3000 runs, 300 Test wickets), Jadeja will have thoroughly earned the title.

Delhi HC issues notice to AITA over alleged sports code violation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday issued notice to the All India Tennis Association (AITA) on a petition by former India tennis players Somdev Devvarman and Purav Raja challenging the holding of its election later this month over alleged violation of the Sports Code.

Justice Purushaindra Kumar Kaurav, while declining to stay the election at this stage, ordered that the result of the polls, which are scheduled to be held on September 28, shall not be made public till further order of the court.

The court further cautioned that if the election is subsequently found to be in violation of the Sports Code, it will not allow the elected office-bearers to function and that an independent entity could be appointed in their place.

"If the election process is conducted in defiance of the subsisting directions, the office-bearers will be restrained from functioning. Then we will consider appointing someone as the ad hoc (body)...," the court said.

The court also issued notice to the Centre and said the election will be subject to the outcome to the plea. It has posted the plea for further hearing on October 14.

The plea claimed that amongst the 18 patent violations, the most significant was the lack of any seats for athletes in the Central Council / General Assembly of the AITA.

It claimed that the Constitution of AITA did not provide for any representation of eminent sportspersons of outstanding merit in the Central Council / General Assembly or the Executive Committee, despite the requirement to provide a minimum of 25% for sportspersons of outstanding merit.

It was also stated that the AITA had a "historical record" of having no respect or regard for the laws of the land, including the Sports Code and various court orders. "The Constitution of the AITA, which was in force since 31.8.2000, remained unamended after the passing of the Sports Code," the plea said.

The plea, apart from seeking direction to ensure that elections of AITA is held strictly in compliance with the National Sports Code, has also sought for appointment of a retired judge as an Administrator of the AITA to run the affairs.

INBRIEF

Ishant, Jones helm fast bowling camp at Invictus Performance Lab

Pacer Ishant Sharma and fast bowling coach Steffan Jones spearhead a fast bowling camp at the Invictus Performance Lab in Bengaluru. The three-day camp, attended by 20 pacers, will conclude on Wednesday. The camp aims to combine bowling science and performance training to engage in holistic development of fast bowlers. "We are honoured to have Ishant Sharma join us for the camp. His experience and insights will greatly enrich the camp experience," said Varun Shetty, Founder of Invictus Performance Lab. "This collaboration is about the long-term development of fast bowlers, providing them with the tools, knowledge, and support they need to excel through every stage of their careers," Jones said.

Treesa-Gayatri duo advances in Macau Open badminton

Third seeds Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand overcame Japan's Akari Sato and Maya Taguchi 15-21, 21-16, 21-14 in a women's doubles first roun match at the Macau Open badminton on Tuesday.

Lukman, Babsafi excel for Baroda CA on opening day

Lukman Meriwala (4/44) and Babasafi Pathan (4/20) put Baroda CA in a commanding position against Maharashtra CA on the first day of the KSCA-Dr. Capt. K. Thimmappiah memorial tournament final in Bengaluru.

The scores: Maharashtra CA 127 in 33.5 overs (Arshin Kulkarni 48, Lukman Meriwala 4/44, Babasafi Pathan 4/20) vs. Baroda CA 130/4 in 33 overs (Mitesh Patel 77 n.o.).

Registrations for Bengaluru Midnight Marathon open

The registrations for the 17th edition of the PhonePe Bengaluru Midnight Marathon (BMM) are open. The race, organised by Rotary Bangalore IT Corridor (RBITC), will be flagged off at KTPO (Whitefield) on December 14. The key events include a marathon, 31.6K run, half marathon, 10K run, 5K fun run, and the fast 5K run (timed). Online registrations are open on *www.midnightmarathon.in*.

Korean great Hyun Il roped in as Sindhu's consulting coach

P.V. Sindhu will have South Korean great Lee Hyun Il as her consulting coach on interim basis. The move came after the recent appointment of Anup Sridhar as Sindhu's interim coach.

Verstappen made to complete a day of community service

Max Verstappen, who said a bad word in a formal news conference to describe how his race car was performing, was ordered by the sport's governing body to complete a day of community service because the FIA has apparently banned cursing.

BAI's reward for Paralympic medal-winning shuttlers

The Badminton Association of India (BAI) announced on Tuesday a total reward of ₹50 lakh for the para shuttlers who secured medals at the Paris Paralympics last month.

The awardees: Nitesh Kumar (gold, men's singles SL3) ₹15 lakh, Suhas Yathiraj (silver, men's singles SL4) & Thulasimathi Murugesan (silver, women's singles SU5) ₹10 lakh each; Manisha Ramadass (bronze, women's singles SU5) & Nithya Sre Sivan (bronze, women's single SH6) ₹7.5 lakh each.

LIVE TELECAST

ISL: Sports 18-3 & JioCinema, 7.30 p.m.
LaLiga: gxr.world, 10.30 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Thursday)

Very glad that Prasidh is back, says Sunil Joshi

The India-A coach was appreciative of the sporting track the Duleep Trophy match against India-C was played on, and had high praise for Rawat, one of the finds of the tournament

Incisive: Prasidh's fiery spell ended India-C's spirited resistance and won the Duleep Trophy for India-A. FILE PHOTO: B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

CRICKET

P.K. Ajith Kumar
ANANTAPUR

Prasidh Krishna looked fit. And he looked menacing.

It was Prasidh's fiery spell that ended the spirited resistance of India-C and won the Duleep Trophy for India-A late into the final hour at the Rural Development Trust Stadium. India-A coach Sunil Joshi smiled broadly as he talked of the seamer's superb show, in only his second game after taking a lengthy break necessitated by injury.

"I am very glad that he has come back into form and is back in the reckoning," Joshi told *The Hindu*. "He was bowling at good speed too, clocking 140s consistently."

The former India all-rounder is also happy that the Duleep Trophy final was played on a sporting track. "This was one of the best wickets I have come across in India," he said. "It was nice that there was something for the bowlers and the batters."

The crowd, he felt, was another positive. Large number of people turned up every day.

"It is important to take the game to smaller cities and towns like this," Joshi said. "Some of the kids might be inspired to take up cricket after watching all these Test and IPL players."

Joshi is all praise of Shashwat Rawat, one of the finds of the tournament.

Not merely the left-hander topped the batting average (85.33) but looked solid in defence and attractive in his strokeplay.

"I had seen his numbers in the Ranji Trophy as I follow domestic players closely," said the former chief national selector.

"He is a compact and elegant player. And I think the selectors led by Ajit Agarkar have done a good job in picking the teams for the Duleep Trophy."

Talking of the final, he felt his team played the perfect red-ball cricket. "Captain Mayank Agarwal did a good job," he said.

"Our spinners Shams Mulani and Tanush Kotian bowled well, and I thought it was a splendid innings by India-C's Sai Sudharsan."

Shardul named in Mumbai squad

IRANI CUP

Sports Bureau
MUMBAI

Having recovered from a foot surgery, Shardul Thakur will make a comeback to competitive cricket for Mumbai, while Ishan Kishan has been selected as the second wicket-keeper for Rest of India for the Irani Cup tie to be played in Lucknow from October 1.

Mumbai's chief selection committee, headed by former left-arm spinner Sanjay Patil on Tuesday, announced a 16-member squad with four new faces. Later in the day, the National selection committee announced that Sarfaraz Khan may join as the 17th member depending on how India's second Test progresses in Kanpur.

The selectors have also named two of the current Test squad members – Yash Dayal and Dhruv Jurel, subject to their involvement in the Test – in the Rest of India squad, to be led by Maharashtra's Ruturaj Gaikwad.

The only surprising inclusion in the Rest of India squad is that of Saransh Jain ahead of Washington Sundar. That the MP off-spinning all-rounder was preferred also indicates that Washington will be a core member of the T20I series against Bangladesh.

Meanwhile, Shardul, having completed his rehab at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru, and Shreyas Iyer, who had a mediocre outing in the Duleep Trophy, will be in limelight in the Mumbai squad, led by Ajinkya Rahane. Prithvi Shaw will make his maiden domestic season appearance after completing a one-day stint in England. The Mumbai selectors have handed a maiden call-up to youngsters like promising top-order batter Ayush Mhatre, lanky off-spinner Himanshu Singh, and pacer Junaid Khan. They had had a fruitful Buchi Babu Trophy outing last month. Siddhesh Lad earned a recall, having served a cooling-off period after representing Goa for a season.

The squads: Mumbai: Ajinkya Rahane (Capt.), Prithvi Shaw, Ayush Mhatre, Musheer Khan, Shreyas Iyer, Siddhesh Lad, Suryansh Shedge, Hardik Tamore (wk), Siddhant Adhatrao (wk), Shams Mulani, Tanush Kotian, Himanshu Singh, Shardul Thakur, Mohit Avasthi, Mohd. Junaid Khan, and Royston Dias.

Rest of India squad: Ruturaj Gaikwad (Capt.), Abhimanyu Easwaran, B. Sai Sudharsan, Devdutt Padikkal, Dhruv Jurel (wk), Ishan Kishan (wk), Manav Suthar, Saransh Jain, Prasidh Krishna, Mukesh Kumar, Yash Dayal, Ricky Bhui, Shashwat Rawat, Khaleel Ahmed, and Rahul Chahar.

Mallorca rallies to post victory over Real Betis

EURO LEAGUES

Associated Press
SEVILLE

Mallorca won in Andalusia for the first time in 11 years after a comeback 2-1 victory over Real Betis in LaLiga on Monday.

Just as in Friday night's match between Alaves and Sevilla, some home fans refused to take their seats for the start of the match in protest at what they said were inconvenient kickoff times.

Football has traditionally been played at weekends and midweek but more and more games have been added on Friday and Monday nights to satisfy TV audiences and cope with increasing fixture congestion.

The result:
Real Betis 1 (Lo Celso 7) lost to Mallorca 2 (Rodriguez 8, Fernandez 90+3).

Special prize for junior National champions

TENNIS

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

The DCM Shriram group that has been hosting the Fenesta National tennis championship, a fortnight-long tennis fiesta in the Capital, has extended its support by announcing a special prize of ₹25,000 each to the champion boys and girls in the singles event of the under-14 and under-16 sections.

The tournament offers more than ₹21 lakh in prize money and scholarship, with the men's and women's singles champions receiving an equal prize of ₹3,00,000.

Top field

Former champions Vishnu Vardhan and Riya Bhatia, apart from the current leading players S.D. Prajwal Dev and Shrivalli Bhamidipaty, are scheduled to compete in the tournament to be played at the DLTA Complex from September 28.

Rishabh Pant and the stirring power of the second chance

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

Rishabh Pant's was the second terrible car accident in Indian cricket. In the first, six decades ago Tiger Pataudi, then 20, lost an eye but had the strength of character to play Test cricket within six months and later lead India. Pant, older at 25 when he had his accident, had already led India (in a T20 International), and missed 15 Tests while he was recovering. "I felt my time in this world was up," he said later of his accident.

Many felt Pant's career had ended, others feared he might not walk again. But cricket, a game of second chances, gave him a second chance. Pant accepted with a mixture of gratitude and glee. His century in Chennai was a triumph of courage and inner belief.

What a comeback!

The mischievous stroke play, the impish sense of humour and the precision of his sixes should not detract from what the century represented: a comeback of epic proportions. When international sportsmen overcome the odds in such style, it sends out a message to those inclined to give up at the first hurdle. Pant updated us on his rehabilitation throughout. It's a story of the spirit kept alive through marginal progress.

There was the time he posted a video on dramatically throwing away his crutch ("No more crutches day", he called it), and then when he climbed stairs. It was slow and frustrating, but Pant had a young body and a strong mind. His surgeon said, "When I told Rishabh 18 months were needed he responded with 'I am going to show you I can do it in 12 months.'"

The longing for a second chance is central to our existence as human beings, something we are aware of deep within us, and recognise in others. "Next time I will do better," is a promise we make when we mess it up the first time – the implication being that there will be a next time.

Pant's 39 in the first innings showed promise till he bottom-edged an intended cut. Next time, he must have told himself, he would do better.

That 39 suggested a person returning to his old haunts and reconnecting with some familiar places. Pant didn't look like he owned the place, but was indicating he had been there before.

In the second innings, there was no such awkwardness. He clearly owned the place. And to such an extent that he was telling the enemy at the gate where to place his fielder if they wanted to stop him.

The strokes are best described as Rishabhian: the last moment recoil and swing that sends the bowler into the stands over fine leg, rising with the bounce to cut square. It was a reminder that Pant is one of the hardest hitters of a cricket ball, a fact emphasised when off spinner Mehidy Hasan Miraz clung on to a missile of a return catch and then spent the rest of the session wringing his hands.

This was the Pant of old: inventive, capable of reducing international bowlers to tears, and a communicator of joy. There was no scaling down of aspiration. Since the accident, said Pataudi, "I have had to compromise with my ambition to become a truly great batsman. I have concentrated instead on trying to make myself a useful one, and a better fielder than my father was." I always found that wonderfully stirring and poignant.

Pant's had a big influence on a couple of series (in Australia), and we'll have to work to keep him quiet, said Australian skipper Pat Cummins looking ahead to the India series commencing in November.

Pant bats like no one has before him, and even in the era of the IPL stands out for his creativity at the crease. He also has a quality uncommon among those who have played for India – a disregard for personal milestones.

He hit the second ball he received in Test cricket for six. In 34 Tests he has six centuries, but six scores in the nineties too!

The second coming sees a batter who pulled himself off the edge, and, as he has said often, is grateful to life. A self-aware sportsman is a greater threat to the opposition.

SNAPSHOTS

Triumphant: Vijay and Jeevan with the big prize.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

India-Germany two-match hockey series in New Delhi

NEW DELHI: The Indian men's hockey team will take on Germany in a two-match bilateral contest at the Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi on October 23 and 24, Hockey India announced on Tuesday.

Jeevan-Vijay pair triumphs

HANGZHOU: Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth fought back from the brink of defeat to beat Constantin Frantzen and Hendrik Jebens of Germany 4-6, 7-6(5), [10-7] in the doubles final of the $1,081,395 ATP tennis tournament in Hangzhou, China, on Tuesday. The champion team won 250 ATP points and $52,880.

In the other ATP doubles final in Chengdu, Yuki Bhambri and Albano Olivetti of France were beaten 6-4, 4-6, [10-4] by Sadio Doumbia and Fabien Reboul of France. Yuki and partner got 150 points and $33,130.

SAFF U-17 football: India blanks Maldives, tops group

THIMPU: Hemneichung Lunkim struck a brace as India blanked Maldives 3-0 to continue its winning streak at the SAFF U17 Championships on Tuesday. Having already qualified for the semifinals, India emerged Group A winner with six points.

The results: India 3 (Ahongshangbam 14, Lunkim 74, 89) bt Maldives 0.

IOC seals semifinal berth; Army downs TN

HOCKEY

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) scripted its third successive win, with a 3-1 victory over Odisha in a Pool-B contest, and assured itself of a place in the knock-out (semifinals) with a match to spare in the 95th MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup All-India hockey tournament here on Tuesday.

From Pool-B, Odisha is the other team to secure a spot in the last four.

Later, in a Pool-A match, Indian Army tamed Tamil Nadu 3-1 with a delectable mix of aggression and caution.

However, there is no clear picture yet in Pool-A as to who will reach the semifinals.

The results: Pool-A: Indian Army 3 (Gaurav Bhagtani 4, Akshay Dubey 29, Chandan Aind 48) bt TN 1 (Dinesh Kumar 47). **B:** IOC 3 (Sumit Kumar 18, V. R. Raghunath 28, Gujinder Singh 42) bt Odisha 1 (Sudeep Minz 19).